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## OPINION METER

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to cast your vote.

## INSIDE



### Wendy's Shooting

A gunman wearing a jacket and tie wordlessly and randomly opened fire inside a Wendy's.

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### RP Quake

Officials closed schools in the Bicol region as a series of aftershocks to a powerful earthquake increased the risk of landslides.

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### Cheapskate

The burgeoning cheap-pride movement began on a back road in Accokeek, Md., with a goof named Jeff Yeager.

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# New car sales soar in Feb.



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## HEALTH HAZARD

Department of Public Works' Roads and Facilities division staff finally remove yesterday the pile of rubble from the pavilion that collapsed a couple of years ago at the Sugar Dock in Chalan Kanoa. The CNMI Coastal Resources Management Office, in coordination with DPW, initiated the removal of the debris, which posed a health and environmental hazard to the community.

- CADA posts 54 percent sales growth
- Highest sales in 18 months

By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

**T**he Commonwealth Automobile Dealers Association reported yesterday that new car sales zoomed by a blistering 54 percent last month after the islands' three auto dealerships sold 71 units in February 2008 compared to the paltry 46 disposed of in February 2007.

CADA president and Joeten Motors general manager Matthew Deets said this  
**See NEW on Page 4**

# Record-high ratio of Americans in prison

**NEW YORK (AP)**—For the first time in U.S. history, more than one of every 100 adults is in jail or prison, according to a new report documenting America's rank as the world's No. 1 incarcerator. It urges states to curtail corrections spending by placing fewer low-risk offenders behind bars.

Using state-by-state data, the report says 2,319,258 Ameri-

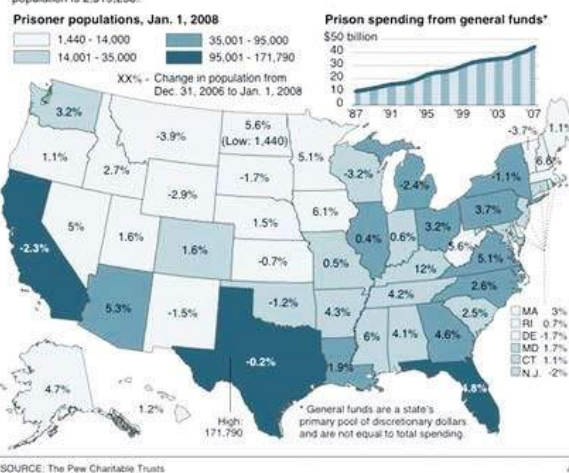
cans were in jail or prison at the start of 2008—one out of every 99.1 adults. Whether per capita or in raw numbers, it's more than any other nation.

The report, released Thursday by the Pew Center on the States, said the 50 states spent more than \$49 billion on corrections last year, up from less than \$11 billion 20 years earlier. The rate

**See RECORD on Page 4**

## Record-high ratio of Americans in prison

For the first time in history, more than one in every 100 American adults is in jail or prison—the current population is 2,319,258.



# Another armed robbery hits arcade

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

A masked man armed with possibly a gun robbed a poker arcade in San Roque early Monday morning.

The suspect ran off with an undetermined amount of money from

**See ANOTHER on Page 4**

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**CONNECT**



## Local

# Fitial opposes redirecting CIP funds to NMC

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Gov. Benigno R. Fitia is not amenable to a House bill that seeks to reprogram Capital Improvement Project funds earmarked to develop two tourist sites for the Northern Mariana College, according to the governor's press secretary Charles P. Reyes.

In an e-mail to the *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Reyes disclosed that the Fitia administration is not likely to support the reprogramming of \$1.5 million in CIP funds meant for

the Lake Susupe Boardwalk Trail project and the Kalabera Cave development project to help the CNMI's ailing and lone tertiary institution.

According to Reyes, these two projects constitute absolutely vital destination enhancement projects that would help boost the Commonwealth's tourism industry by providing additional attractions and activities for visiting tourists.

Reyes said the administration firmly believes that the CNMI must improve as a tourist destination to create demand for travel and support increased

flight capacity into the islands.

"The governor will not risk losing these important tourism projects for badly needed economic development," said Reyes. "As important as NMC is to our community, we cannot jeopardize such important projects, which would pay dividends over the long run."

House Bill 16-31, a bill introduced by Rep. David Apatang, proposes to re-appropriate \$750,000 from the Lake Susupe Boardwalk Trail project to NMC. The Apatang bill also proposes to withhold another \$750,000 from the Kalabera

Cave development project and transfer those funds to NMC.

Reyes said the Marianas Visitors Authority, Strategic Economic Development Committee, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, and members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce all support the government's effort to improve the CNMI as a tourist destination by building additional attractions for visitors to enjoy.

"In the long run, the administration believes that these new attractions would benefit the entire community, including

NMC, by attracting more tourists, creating more jobs, providing more tax revenues, and making more money circulate throughout our local economy," said Reyes.

"Although we commend Representative Apatang's

good intentions for NMC, we cannot, in good conscience, compromise these vital developments for the CNMI," he added. "Other solutions must be found for NMC and more money may not be the only alternative for the college."



**BIRTHDAY BOY**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy third birthday to our beloved son, Joshua S. Bustillo, from your Daddy Jonas, Mommy Joy and Mommy Nana Evelyn.

## Update on Tanapag cemetery PCB contamination sought

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

A lawmaker from Saipan wants the Division of Environmental Quality to update the Legislature on the status of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) contamination assessment study conducted several years ago at the Tanapag cemetery.

Sen. Luis P. Crisostomo requested the status report in a letter to DEQ Director Frank Rabauliman, saying it is crucial that the public gets an update of PCBs continued effect on the residents of Tanapag and the lagoon's marine life.

An EPA Region 9 environmental engineer and a toxicologist conducted the study on site.

"I believe that this report is long overdue and our people deserve to know the findings, if any. Today, we continue to see an alarming increase in cancer victims and other health problems which maybe associated [with] the PCB contamination," said Crisostomo.

PCB contamination in Tanapag began when an unknown number of capacitors were left behind by the U.S. military in the area in the 1960s. Crisostomo said the ceramic capacitors were originally purchased by the U.S. Department of Defense and used on Kwajalein Atoll as part of the Nike Zeus

missile radar system.

Aside from the level of PCB contamination at the Tanapag cemetery, Crisostomo also asked the DEQ for an update on World War II live-ordnance found in San Roque and Tanapag lagoons and its potential impact on the lagoon and its marine life.

"I would like to ask that your office provide me an update if there is any intent by the federal government or DoD [Department of Defense] to remove World War II live-ordnance in San Roque and Tanapag lagoons," he said in his letter to Rabauliman.

"Moreover, I also would like to request for an impact study on the effects of the current sediments of these live-ordnance in our lagoon and its impact [on] our marine life, as well as the health and safety of our CNMI people and our visitors."

The Army Corps had classified Tanapag as a formerly used defense site, FUDS.

Electrical, heat transfer and hydraulic equipment used in industrial and commercial applications contain PCBs, which have been shown to cause cancer and other health effects in humans and animals, including effects on the immune, reproductive, nervous, and endocrine systems.

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# Extensive visiting privileges for Miura OK'd

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has ordered the Department of Corrections to consider providing extensive visiting privileges for Japanese businessman Kazuyoshi Miura's family and close friends.

Wiseman also ordered Corrections Commissioner Lino Tenorio to maintain an adequate supply of medicine for the 60-year-old Miura.

The judge said that Miura's counsel Bruce Berline and Mark Hanson brought up the issue of

medicine supply and visiting privileges after Monday's status conference. Chief Prosecutor Jeffery Warfield Sr. did not object to the defense's request.

Wiseman said the defense counsel explained Miura's need to have enough supply of medicine on hand. He did not specify the medicines needed nor Miura's medical condition.

The judge said the defense counsel also expressed that Miura, being a foreigner with no family here on Saipan, be allowed to have his family and close friends who will be traveling from Japan to visit him at

DOC in the near future.

Wiseman said the defense lawyers requested that the visitors be allowed extensive visiting privileges.

Wiseman said he finds the defense counsel's request to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General's Office failed to beat the 4pm deadline yesterday to submit any opposition to Miura's motion to dismiss the extradition complaint.

Citing technical problems, Warfield requested additional time to prepare the government's opposition.

The AGO submitted a stipulation signed by Warfield and Berline shortly right before the closing time of 4:30pm yesterday at the Superior Court.

Under the stipulation, Warfield and Berline agreed that any opposition to the motion to dismiss must be filed via e-mail in court no later than 8pm last night.

The parties agreed that a copy of the government's opposition should

be served, via e-mail and facsimile, on Miura's counsel at the same time—no later than 8pm last night.

The parties further agreed that the government's original opposition should be filed in court today, Wednesday, no later than 8am.

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted the parties' agreement.

Manglona will preside over the motion hearing today at 3pm.

Berline and Hanson had argued that Miura's detention is illegal

and the court should dismiss the extradition complaint and immediately free the businessman.

Local authorities arrested Miura at the Saipan International Airport on Feb. 22 when he and his current wife were about to depart for Narita, Japan. He was arrested for the murder of his first wife in Los Angeles 27 years ago.

Miura had already been convicted in Japan in 1994 for the killing of Kazumi Miura. The verdict, however, was overturned by Japan's high court 10 years ago.

## Warfield, DPS staff set outreach program in Kobler

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Rebecca Warfield and other DPS personnel will be conducting a community outreach program in Koblerville.

DPS spokesperson Lei Ogumoro told Saipan Tribune yesterday that besides Warfield, Fire Division representatives and other police officers will initiate the meeting at the Koblerville Youth Center on Monday at 6pm.

Ogumoro said they are inviting residents to attend the meeting where they can express their needs and tell DPS the kind of services they want to see provided to their community.

"We are just trying to address the community's needs," she said, adding that for questions or concerns the public may contact the Commissioner's Office at 664-9022.

On safety issue, Ogumoro said the DPS Traffic Section is informing the public that it is providing traffic cones to interested individuals or organizations.

A traffic officer will be available to assist in filling out a request form before traffic cones are released, she said.

The requesting party, Ogumoro said, will be asked to provide a brief summary of the event and the location for which

the cones will be used.

Although it's free, she added, the requesting party will be

responsible for returning the cones back to the Traffic Section. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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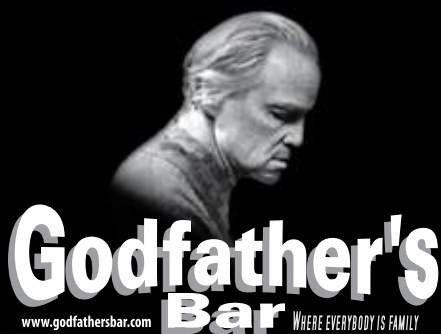
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# Possible Prior Service benefits

The Prior Service Trust Fund Administration has issued a list of 235 individuals or their surviving spouse who may be eligible for Prior Service benefits.

Prior Service Trust Fund adviser Jerold F. Facey is requesting these individuals to contact his office about important information related to possible benefits.

“If you or your deceased spouse’s name is listed and you worked for the U.S. Navy or Trust Territory government for five or more years before July 1, 1968, please call the Prior Service Office at 322-9753 only on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 8am and 12 noon.

“However, if your name is listed and you are still working for the government or private sector, please do not call until you retire,” said Facey.

The Prior Service Office will be issuing the names on the list every three to five days, until all the names are published.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI
Ada	Josepha	
Ada	Maria	C
Agulto	Herminia	P
Aguon	Juan	M
Aguon	Rosa	S
Aldan	Ines	D
Angoi	Jose	C
Arriola	Jose	F
Arriola	Theresita	B

Atalig	Barcinas Augustin	
Ayem (Afong)	Sabino	M
Ayuyu	Andres	A
Babauta	Santiago	
Babauta	Vicente	M
Babauta	Vicente	Sn
Barcinas	Juan	S
Benavente	Louie	A
Borja	Bernabe	
Borja	Fernando Castro	
Borja	Ramon Santos	
Borja	Trinidad	A
Cabrera	Gregoria	C
Cabrera	Gregorio	Nmn
Cabrera	Jesus	C
Cabrera	Jose Tenorio	
Cabrera	Juan S.N.	
Cabrera	Lorenzo D.L.G	
Cabrera	Luis Mendiola	
Cabrera	Magdalena	C
Cabrera	Nicolas Taisacan	
Cabrera	Sabino	R
Cabrera	Sebastian Mendiola	
Cabrera	Vicente Reyes	
Calixterio	Margarita	
Calvo	Julian	S
Camacho	Alejandro	S
Camacho	Antonio	O
Camacho	Antonio	S
Camamcho	Antonio	T
Camacho	Augustine	B



## PRAYER OFFERING

A family offers incense and prayers at the foot of a monument as they enjoy the serene and peaceful setting of Banzai Cliff. Hundreds of Japanese civilian and military forces jumped to their death on this famous historical site during WWII.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## NEW

From Page 1

was the first month of positive growth in the CNMI automobile market since June 2005 and the highest total sales in the past 18 months.

“We are pleased with last month’s sales numbers and our

hope is that this trend will continue. This kind of news helps build consumer confidence and is often a driver for future sales,” he said in an e-mail to the *Saipan Tribune*.

Microl Corp. led the way with 34 new car sales, which represents a 54.55-percent increase from the 22 units sold in the same period last year. The

San Jose automobile dealership, which captured 47.89 percent of the market, sold 24 cars, three vans, and sport utility vehicles last month.

Microl Corp. was followed by Joeten Motors, which saw a 73.33-percent increase in sales with 26 units last month compared to the 15 sold in February 2007. The auto dealership

of the Joeten Group of Companies sold 11 cars, seven trucks, two vans, and six SUVs last month. It had a 36.62 percent share of the market in February 2008.

Triple J Motors, meanwhile, saw a 22.22-percent hike in sales to 11 units sold in February 2008 compared to nine in the same period in 2007. The

lower Garapan auto dealership sold seven cars and 11 SUVs and cornered 15.49 percent of the market last month.

According to Deets, the most popular sedan last month was the Toyota Corolla with 14 units sold. The Nissan Frontier ruled the truck market with four units followed by the Ford Ranger with three.

A total of five vans were also sold and in the SUV segment the new Toyota Highlander bested the competition with four units sold.

Microl Corp. sells Toyota and Chevrolet, while Joeten Motors sells Nissan, Ford, Honda, and Kia. Triple J Motors sells Hyundai, Mitsubishi, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru, and Mazda.

## ANOTHER

From Page 1

Yuta Poker. No one was injured, according to the Department of Public Safety yesterday.

Yuta Poker is located east of Grace Market.

DPS spokesperson Lei Ogu-moro said that police officers

were dispatched to Yuta Poker on Monday at 3:20am after receiving a call about a robbery.

Preliminary investigation showed that the unidentified masked man had entered the arcade carrying a gun or weapon described by a witness or witnesses as long and black.

Police said the cashier was forced to unlock the cashier’s

booth and hand over the money to the robber. The suspect then fled the scene.

He was described as wearing a camouflage/army jacket, dark pants, white gloves, and a dark material to conceal his face.

Ogumoro said that police are now conducting follow-up investigation.

On Feb. 26, an unidentified

man robbed at knife point a male tourist who was walking along the Beach Road pathway in Garapan.

The victim, a 36-year-old Japanese, was divested of his leather brown wallet, bracelet, necklace and a Rolex wristwatch.

The robber was described as medium built, dark complexioned, and was wearing a hat and

a pair of sunglasses. No arrest was made so far in that robbery.

On Feb. 11, a female cashier’s bravery foiled two armed men’s attempt to rob Leo Poker in San Jose.

The suspects ran away when the cashier refused to open the door of the cashier’s booth in the establishment.

On Jan. 26, two masked

men robbed a man at knife point in front of a laundry shop in Chalan Piao.

On Jan. 23, two armed men attempted to rob Hong’s Market in San Vicente. The suspects ran away when the son of the cashier came out from behind the store and confronted the suspects.

Five other armed robberies occurred on Saipan in January.

## RECORD

From Page 1

of increase for prison costs was six times greater than for higher education spending, the report said.

The steadily growing inmate population “is saddling cash-strapped states with soaring costs they can ill afford and failing to have a clear impact either on recidivism or overall crime,” the report said.

Susan Urahn, managing director of the Pew Center on the States, said budget woes are pressuring many states to consider new, cost-saving corrections policies that might have been shunned in the recent past for fear of appearing soft on crime.

“We’re seeing more and more states being creative because of tight budgets,” she said in an interview. “They want to be tough on crime. They want to be a

law-and-order state. But they also want to save money, and they want to be effective.”

The report cited Kansas and Texas as states that have acted decisively to slow the growth of their inmate population. They are making greater use of community supervision for low-risk offenders and employing sanctions other than reimprisonment for offenders who commit technical violations of parole and probation rules.

“The new approach, born of bipartisan leadership, is allowing the two states to ensure they have enough prison beds for violent offenders while helping less dangerous lawbreakers become productive, taxpaying citizens,” the report said.

While many state governments have shown bipartisan interest in curbing prison growth, there also are persistent calls to proceed cautiously.

“We need to be smarter,” said David Muhlhausen, a criminal

justice expert with the conservative Heritage Foundation. “We’re not incarcerating all the people who commit serious crimes. But we’re also probably incarcerating people who don’t need to be.”

According to the report, the inmate population increased last year in 36 states and the federal prison system.

The largest percentage increase—12 percent—was in Kentucky, where Gov. Steve Beshear highlighted the cost of corrections in his budget speech last month. He noted that the state’s crime rate had increased only about 3 percent in the past 30 years, while the state’s inmate population has increased by 600 percent.

The report was compiled by the Pew Center’s Public Safety Performance Project, which is working with 13 states on developing programs to divert offenders from prison without jeopardizing public safety.

“Getting tough on criminals has gotten tough on taxpayers,” said the project’s director, Adam Gelb.

According to the report, the average annual cost per prisoner was \$23,876, with Rhode Island spending the most (\$44,860) and Louisiana the least (\$13,009). It said California—which faces a \$16 billion budget shortfall—spent \$8.8 billion on corrections last year, while Texas, which has slightly more inmates, was a distant second with spending of \$3.3 billion.

On average, states spend 6.8 percent of their general fund dollars on corrections, the report said. Oregon had the highest spending rate, at 10.9 percent; Alabama the lowest at 2.6 percent.

Four states—Vermont, Michigan, Oregon and Connecticut—now spend more on corrections than they do on higher education, the report said.

“These sad facts reflect a

very distorted set of national priorities,” said Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent from Vermont, referring to the full report. “Perhaps, if we adequately invested in our children and in education, kids who now grow up to be criminals could become productive workers and taxpayers.”

The report said prison growth and higher incarceration rates do not reflect an increase in the nation’s overall population. Instead, it said, more people are behind bars mainly because of tough sentencing measures, such as “three-strikes” laws, that result in longer prison stays.

“For some groups, the incarceration numbers are especially startling,” the report said. “While one in 30 men between the ages of 20 and 34 is behind bars, for black males in that age group the figure is one in nine.”

The racial disparity for women also is stark. One of every

355 white women aged 35 to 39 is behind bars, compared with one of every 100 black women in that age group.

The nationwide figures, as of Jan. 1, include 1,596,127 people in state and federal prisons and 723,131 in local jails. That’s out of almost 230 million American adults.

The report said the United States incarcerates more people than any other nation, far ahead of more populous China with 1.5 million people behind bars. It said the U.S. also is the leader in inmates per capita (750 per 100,000 people), ahead of Russia (628 per 100,000) and other former Soviet bloc nations which round out the Top 10.

The U.S. also is among the world leaders in capital punishment. According to Amnesty International, its 53 executions in 2006 were exceeded only by China, Iran, Pakistan, Iraq and Sudan.



# 5 relate attack by ex-Corrections officer

The government yesterday presented five witnesses in the jury trial of a former Corrections officer accused of pointing a gun at a taxi driver in As Teo.

The victim, Shawn Castro, took the witness stand and narrated the circumstances that led up to the defendant, Jesse R. Babauta, pointing a rifle at

him on June 9, 2007.

The government also called to the witness stand Babauta's former girlfriend, Bobby Borja, and three police officers—Christopher Deleon Guerrero, Vincent K. Basa, and Patrick Maanao.

After the testimony of the five witnesses, assistant attorney general Melissa Simms, aided

by assistant attorney general Michael Evangelista, rested the government's case.

The jury trial will continue today, Wednesday, at 9:30am with the rebuttal of defense counsel Perry Inos.

The seven jurors, including one alternate, will decide the assault with a dangerous weapon charge, while Super-

ior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman will decide the assault and battery, and disturbing the peace charges.

The prosecution alleged that on June 9, 2007, Babauta, at that time a Corrections officer, assaulted Castro with a .223 caliber rifle at the defendant's house.

The prosecution said Babauta

also struck Castro on the head.

Police said Babauta pointed the rifle at Castro, a taxi operator for Tropical Island Transportation Services, who had dropped Borja at the defendant's home.

At the time, Borja was reportedly Babauta's girlfriend.

Police said Castro was on duty as a taxi driver when a customer [Borja] called him to pick her up at her residence in Koblerville.

Castro said he transported Borja to As Teo. Upon reaching the As Teo residence, Castro saw Babauta's car arrive and park next to his taxicab.

Babauta got down and allegedly started pointing at Castro's head, asking him what his problem was.

The defendant then allegedly pushed the taxi driver's head

with his finger and challenged the driver to a fight.

Police said that when Castro got out of the taxicab, Babauta ran to his car, took out a rifle and pointed it at him.

At that point, Borja yelled and asked Babauta what he was doing. She then pushed the gun away, but the defendant allegedly pointed the rifle at her. Borja backed off.

Babauta then allegedly pointed the gun back at Castro, who was trying to explain that he is just a taxi driver.

Castro then hurriedly left the place. He told police that as he was leaving, he could see from the rear view mirror that the defendant was still aiming his rifle at the car.

Castro then called police. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## It's not too late to return Economic Census forms

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA  
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EDITOR

While the Feb. 12 deadline has passed, business owners in the Northern Mariana Islands who received the 2007 Economic Census forms are being urged to complete and return them as soon as possible to satisfy their legal obligation.

According to Jose Liwanag, Central Statistics Division director, all businesses that received the forms are required by law to respond to the census.

"They [U.S. Census] got their listing from the IRS, so they know. By U.S. law, every business needs to do it. We're not going to go in there and twist their arm but they need to know that it's the law," he said.

For those who have not sent in their responses, Liwanag said they will conduct a follow up in the months to come.

"The U.S. Census Bureau will be coming back soon to train us to do the follow up. They will give us a list of those businesses that have not responded and we will give these businesses up to a certain date to comply with the law," he said.

The economic census is taken every five years to identify business trends and measure economic growth. Governments, businesses and individuals use U.S. Virgin Island's economic census data for planning and market development. Census data also help update figures such as the Northern Mariana Island gross domestic product.

Commerce Secretary James A. Santos said that the department's role in the census was merely to coordinate the process. "We just liaise. It's a mail-in, mail-out process. U.S. Census mails the questionnaires to the businesses and it

is the businesses themselves who have to mail out their responses to Census."

Information collected in the 2007 Economic Census includes the number of employees, payroll, and the types and value of goods and services provided during 2007. Most businesses can complete their forms in about an hour. Versions of the forms may be previewed online.

Businesses that receive a form are legally obligated to complete and return it. If a business needs more time to complete the forms, it can use the site to request a 30-day extension. Online forms and assistance are available at [www.census.gov/econhelp](http://www.census.gov/econhelp), or by calling 800-233-6136.

The U.S. Census Bureau assured that census reports are confidential by law. "Individual responses will be seen only by

persons sworn to uphold the confidentiality of Census Bureau information and may only be used for statistical purposes. Copies retained in respondents' files are immune from the legal process. Responses are exempt from the Freedom of Information Act, and no business competitors can obtain the data," it said in a statement.

### If You Purchased Any Airborne Products You Could be Entitled to Money

A Settlement has been proposed in a class action lawsuit with Airborne Health, Inc. and other persons and entities ("Defendants").

#### What Is the Lawsuit About?

The lawsuit claims that Defendants made misleading or false statements about Airborne products. This includes, among other things, that Airborne can cure or prevent colds. Defendants deny any wrongdoing or illegal conduct but have agreed to settle the case.

#### What Airborne Products Are Included?

Airborne Effervescent Health Formula; Airborne On-the-Go; Airborne Power Pixies; Airborne Nighttime; Airborne Jr.; Airborne Gummi; and Airborne Seasonal.

#### Am I a Member of the Class?

You are a member of the class if you purchased any flavor or formulation of any Airborne Product in the United States or any of its Territories from May 1, 2001 through November 29, 2007.

#### What Does the Settlement Provide?

A Settlement Fund of \$23.25 million dollars will pay valid claims and attorneys' fees/expenses awarded by the Court. The Defendants will pay separately for other costs.

If valid claims exceed \$23.25 million, Defendants will add \$250,000 to the Fund. If valid claims exceed the Fund, Class Member payments will be reduced proportionally. Any money left in the Fund will be donated to non-profit organization(s).

#### How Much Money Can I Get Back?

If you have receipt(s), you may seek reimbursement for the receipt amount less sales tax. If you do not have receipt(s), you may still seek reimbursement for up to six boxes of Airborne products, as explained in the detailed Notice.

The Settlement does not require Airborne to change its advertising. Ongoing governmental inquiries will address such changes, if any. If you stay in the Class, you will not be able to sue Airborne for these claims.

#### What Are My Options?

- **File a Claim.** You must remain in the Class to file a claim. You will be bound by the Court's rulings, but you can object to or comment on the Settlement. Claim Forms must be signed and postmarked (or submitted online) by **September 15, 2008** by 12 Midnight PST. By remaining in the Class, you will release claims against the Defendants and their Distributors, as outlined in the detailed Notice, available below. **Please read the Release carefully, as it affects your legal rights.**
- **Exclude yourself** and keep your right to sue the Defendants. Your written request for exclusion must be postmarked by **May 12, 2008.**
- **Object or comment on the Settlement and/or appear in Court, only if you remain in the Class.** You may hire your own attorney for these purposes. Your written request must be postmarked by **May 19, 2008.** Your written request to appear in Court must be postmarked by **June 2, 2008.**

Details on how to file a Claim, exclude yourself, object or appear in the case are available at the Web site, address or number listed below.

The Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement at the Fairness Hearing on June 16, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

#### This Notice is a Summary only.

To get additional information, including a copy of the detailed Notice and Claim Form or to File Online,

Visit: [www.AirborneHealthSettlement.com](http://www.AirborneHealthSettlement.com)

Call: 1-888-952-9080

Or Write: Airborne Class Action Settlement Administrator  
PO Box 1897, Faribault, MN 55021-7152

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## Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana Ofisinan I Gubietno Dipattamenton I Tano’ Pupbliku

### NOTISIAN PRINIPONEN ATKILON TÂNO’ PUBLIKU

Segun i Lai Publiku 15-2, I Dipattamenton Tano’ Publiku man-nânâ’i’ notisia pot i intension para ma’atkilan tano’ publiku giya Saipan, Commonwealth Sankatan siha na Islas Marianas. Maseha hâye na petsona interesao, siña muna halom opinion, infotmasion, yan kinentra pot i mapropone na atkilon tano publiku. I mapropopone i sigiente siha.

- i. Para uma’ atkila tano’ publiku madeskribe kumo i numiron propiadât 003 A 11, konsisiste kuarentai-nuebe mit kuâtto sientos sinkuentai-nuebe metro (49,459) square meters, 003 A 20, ha konsisiste kuarentai-nuebe mit, kinientos tres (49,503) square meters, 003 A 19, ha konsisiste dies mit(10,000) square meters, mas o’ menos ni gaige giya Marpi, Saipan. Kopian i lugât i situ gaige gi Depattamenton Tano’ Publiku ni libre hao umina.
- ii. I para u inatkila este na tano i Win DnC. Co., LTD, un koporasion gi CNMI. I kuetpon direktot siha i sigente: Youngjai Kim, Kwon Hee Lee, yan si Kwi Dong Woo.  
  
I presidente yan treserun i koporasion si Youngjai Kim. I segundo presidente si Kwon Hee Lee; sekretâria si Kwi Dong Woo.
- iii. Si Señor Youngjai Kim (Presidente yan Treseru), Kwon Hee Lee (segundon i Presidente) yan si Kwi Dong Woo (Sekritârio), munigosiu i kontratan atkilon.
- iv. I para u inatkila i lugât debi de u usa solamente para u hâtsa ya u establesi un hotel yan otro siha fasilidât.  
  
I mapropone na tiempon kontrâtan atkilon para bente-siñko âños (25 yrs.), yan appottunidat ma-ekstiende para talo kinse âños (15 yrs.).  
  
I mapropone na âpas atkilon gi sakkan durânten i tiempo sigun i mapega na presiu segun i balin i lugât.
- v. I kabâles na kopian i mapropone na kontrâtan atkilon siña un chule gi ofisinan I Dipattamenton Tano’ Publiku, ni gaige gi mina dos na bibienda gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, giya Saipan, mina dos bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building giya Luta, fine’nina na bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building giya Tinian.
- vi. Taya otro propositu guaha pot kontrâtan atkilon tano publiko ni tineteka iya Marpi, Saipan.
- vii. I Sekretarion Dipattamenton Tano’ Publiku siempre hu aksepta tinige’ opinion, mensâhen kinentra yan testimonio osino otro siha na propositu ginen i man-interesao na petsona ântes de Matsu 6, 2008 gi Ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano’ Publiku siha ni gaige giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

### ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekki atotoowow amataf’igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong ischil mángámangiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngali milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap ekki bwáári Lot No. 003 A 11, eyoor faigh me tiwow sangaras fabwughuw limeigh me tiwow llapal (49,459 square meters), elap me ngäre eghús, Lot No. 003 A 20, faigh me tiwoow sangaras, lima bwughuw elluw (49,503) sq. meters llapal, elap me ngäre eghuus, me Lot No. 003 A 19., seigh sangaras (10,000) sq. meters, llapal, elap me eghus, elo Máschepi, Seipél. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor llól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngäre óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Win DnC Co., LTD., corporation. Schóól Assamwoolul mwiisch (board of directors) mellol corporation nge Youngjai Kim, Kwon Hee Lee me Kwidong Woo.  
  
Samwoolul (President me Treasurer) corporation nge Youngjai Kim. Vice President nge Kwon Hee Lee. Sekkretório nge Kwidong Woo.
- iii. Schóól aweeel akkilon nge Youngjai Kim (Samwoolul me Treasurer), Kwon Hee Lee (Vice President) me Kwidong Woo (Sekkretório) corporation yeel.
- iv. Schóól akkilon ebwe yááyá bwuley ngali schagh akkayul hotel me akkaw iimw kka a fillong.  
  
Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon ebwe ruweigh me limwoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limwoow ráágh (15 years).  
  
Pomwol akkilon ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (value of the property).
- v. Emmwel óubwe bwughil tilighial akkilon mellól bwulasiyool ammwelil falúweer toulap, elo aruwowal pwó(2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Buiding, Luuta; me ngäre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo akkáaw pomwol akkilon yeel me Máschepi, Seipél.
- vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ebwe bwughil aweewe kkaal, aingiingil, mereer amweyút aramas mmwal schagh Ghúúw(Móózo) 6, 2007 mellól Depattamentool Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me Tchúlúyól..

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 003 A 11, containing an area of approximately 49,459 square meters, more or less, Lot No. 003 A 20, containing an area of approximately 49,503 square meters, more or less, and Lot No. 003 A 19, containing an area of approximately 10,000 square meters, situated in Marpi, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- ii. The prospective lessee is Win DnC Co., LTD., a CNMI corporation. The board of directors of the corporation are Youngjai Kim, Kwon Hee Lee, and Kwidong Woo.  
  
The president and treasurer of the corporation is Youngjai Kim. The vice president is Kwon Hee Lee. The secretary is Kwidong Woo.
- iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Youngjai Kim, Mr. Kwon Hee Lee, and Mr. Kwidong Woo, president/treasurer, vice president, and secretary, respectively, of the corporation.
- iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of constructing and developing a hotel and related facilities.  
  
The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.  
  
The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.
- v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
- vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Marpi, Saipan.
- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before March 6, 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

# Bennett asks Fitial to create a Chamolinian Commission

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Former Teacher Representative Ambrose Bennett is asking the governor to put politics aside and consider merging all existing cultural efforts under one umbrella to create a Chamolinian Commission.

The Chamolinian Commission, Bennett said in a letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitia, could oversee all the cultural preservation efforts and institute an educational process that he claims is “truly needed to preserve and grow the cultures for all time as they have done in Hawaii.”

He added that with the merging of programs, this will reduce the size of the government’s cultural organizations “as there

are too many redundant services being rendered by keeping the Chamorro and Carolinian efforts separate.”

In addition to this, Bennett is also asking the governor to consider pushing for legislation that will create a cultural curriculum for both indigenous cultures “to assure that all the history, traditions, customs, arts and crafts are preserved and are capable of being taught to future generations.”

At present, the knowledge of the indigenous cultures is scattered and needs to be combined for preservation and teaching purposes, Bennett said.

“There are also millions of federal funding for schools that use a cultural curriculum, making it very possible and even easy for the CNMI to imple-

ment within the existing school system. We just need to do our homework,” he said.

Bennett said that there is real need for the cultural curriculum but “the politics of money and power in the CNMI has always seemed to prevail over social politics and social needs.”

Bennett commended the governor for creating a group of people to assess the merging of government agencies and the economic commission that he said he has been asking for over the past five years.

“However, the government is the property of the people to serve the will of the people. . . . The people should have some say in the final decision of this magnitude to change the structure of our government,” he said.

## KHS concludes Black History Month

The students and faculty of Kagman High School engaged in trivial fun and games to conclude February 2008’s Black History Month.

Five students from ninth to twelfth grades were chosen by their classmates to represent their grade levels in a game of Black History Month.

Teachers and faculty were to portray a famous face in Black History and the student representatives were to race to the podium to answer who

it was they were portraying.

KHS history teacher Ambrose Bennett did an impersonation of Chris Tucker in which he provided famous laugh-out-loud lines said by the actor.

In the end, the juniors came out victorious, winning for themselves free treats from the Social Studies department.

It has been decided by the whole school that the entertaining and informative event conceived by the KHS National

Honor Society should take place once every month.

“This was the first time we did this, but we plan on doing it again every month [thereafter],” Bennett said.

Next month the Trivial Pursuit game will focus on the history of the Kagman High School.

“We also plan on going into the Northern Mariana Islands history and other academically driven ideas,” Bennett said. **(Rianne Pangelinan-Brown)**



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
State Board of Education  
Public School System  
P.O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID  
IFB 08-020

The Public School System and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase, delivery, installation, and assembly of **School and Office Furniture, Computers, LCD Projectors, and Accessories for Marianas High School, Saipan and Tinian Elementary School, Tinian**. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked “IFB 08-020” containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, no later than **March 25, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked “IFB 08-020, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination” (one (1)-original and one (1)-copy). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Bidders are advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act and the labor standard provisions for wage rate determination of the Commonwealth. All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of \$ 3.55 per hour which took effect on July 25, 2007 as established by Federal law including subsequent increases of \$.50 per hour that is scheduled to take effect on May 26, 2008 and extending further, until the hourly rate equals that of the Federal Minimum Wage of \$ 7.50 per hour.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with CNMI Public School System Procurement Regulations. Article 7, “Local Business Preference”, as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the Contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them “to the maximum extent feasible.”

The CNMI Public School System hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

Pursuant to the Governor’s Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders’ chosen Surety.

Performance time for completion of this project is ninety (90) Calendar days beginning with the date of Notice to Proceed. The Contractor shall pay to the CNMI Public School System the greater sum of U.S. **\$100.00 per day (One Hundred Dollars), or 2% of the total contract price divided by the number of calendar days of the contract time**, not as a penalty, but as reasonable liquidated damages for failing, neglecting, or refusing to complete the work within the time herein specified, and said sums shall be paid for each consecutive calendar day that the Contractor shall be in default beyond the time stipulated for completing the work.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl de la Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: delacruz@pss.cnmi.mp.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Public School System.

**/S/ Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A.**  
Commissioner of Education

**/S/ Manuel A. Sablan**  
NMHC Board Chairman

**/S/ Carl de la Cruz, M.B.A.**  
Acting P&S Officer



# Hillblom Foundation donates \$50,000 to NMI Red Cross

The NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross recently received a \$50,000 donation from the Larry L. Hillblom Foundation to support its efforts to improve people's lives here in the Commonwealth.

The funds will be used to support various organizations that work closely with the NMI Chapter to relieve human suffering as well as those that promote physical fitness and voluntary service.

"We are again overwhelmed by the generosity of the Hillblom Foundation and their desire to help the people of the CNMI," said John Hirsh, executive director

of the NMI Chapter. "These funds will go a long way in helping not only the Red Cross, but also provide support to other organizations that are making a difference in our community."

The funds have been earmarked by the Foundation to support the following programs:

- additional labor and delivery ultrasound equipment for CHC;

- purchase of Automated External Defibrillators for public access;

- equipment, supplies and training to support the NMI Swimming Federation, Guma Esperanza, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Salvation Army food program and the Rotary Club fire victim fund.

Larry Hillblom was a long time resident of the CNMI and his generosity lives on through his support of these valuable programs.

The LLHF is a California non-profit public benefit corporation. It is funded through a bequest from Larry L. Hillblom, a respected international businessman who was one of the three founders of DHL Worldwide Express. For more information about his Foundation log on to [www.llhf.org](http://www.llhf.org).

The Red Cross is a non-profit, volunteer led humanitarian organization whose mission is to relieve human suffering worldwide. More information about the Red Cross and its programs can be found at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or by calling the NMI Chapter at 234-3459. (ARC)

# Inos names 5 to Rota casino commission

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA  
[editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com)  
EDITOR

Rota Mayor Joseph Inos has nominated five persons who will comprise the initial members of the Rota Casino Commission.

In a letter to Roy Masga, chairman of the 12th Rota Municipal Council, Inos named Barry Cuthbert Toves, Diego M. Songao, Ephrem S. Taimanao, Abraham M. Ogo, and Melchor A. Mendiola as his appointees to the commission. The appointments require the council's consent.

"After having personally consulted with each appointee, they are most willing to serve our community with commitment, determination, and conviction as they prepare to lay basic foundations of a gaming industry consistent with our genuine desire to improve the livelihood of the people in Rota," said Inos.

Inos said the five nominees will provide the council with the neces-

sary information and documents as may be required.

"I am confident that, after reviewing their credentials, you will find them distinctively valuable and culturally knowledgeable, good moral standing, ethically disciplined, and above all, highly respected citizens in our community," said Inos.

As per section (3) of the Rota Casino Act of 2007, the council will be conducting the initial public hearing on March 25, 2006, 6pm, at the Rota Supreme Court-Sinapalo II.

Inos' letter to Masga was dated Feb. 14, 2008, but was only made available yesterday, after Vincent Calvo, a member of the Rota Municipal Council, was quoted in a March 3, 2008, news report that local residents and potential investors were concerned about the delay in the appointment of commission members.

Rota voters ratified the casino initiative in the November 2007 election. A total of 1,095 voters approved the ini-

tiative, and 187 voted against it. The number of "yes" votes represented 70 percent of the 1,564 registered voters, and 85 percent of the voter turnout on Rota. The initiative needed only two-thirds of the registered voters to pass.

The casino initiative created a Rota Casino Gaming Commission made up of five members. The Rota mayor, with the consent of the Rota Municipal Council, will appoint the commissioners. Each commissioner will be paid \$60,000 a year.

There will be no restrictions on the total number of casino licenses that may be issued, or the number of casinos that a person or a group may own or operate on Rota.

The license application fee may cost up to \$100,000 and an annual license fee may not exceed \$200,000 for the first license year.

A Rota gaming tax equivalent to 5 percent of the gross gaming revenue will also be collected from casino operators.



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MELL SENOKO	V017	3/14 FRI	3/15 SAT	3/21 FRI	3/22 SAT	3/25 TUE	3/26 WED	3/28 FRI	3/29 SAT	4/1 TUE
ASIAN ISLAND	V006	3/21 FRI	3/22 SAT	3/28 FRI	3/29 SAT	SKIP	4/2 WED	4/4 FRI	4/5 SAT	4/8 TUE
STADT HAMBURG	V014	3/28 FRI	3/29 SAT	4/4 FRI	4/5 SAT	4/8 TUE	4/9 WED	4/11 FRI	4/12 SAT	4/15 TUE
MELL SENOKO	V018	4/4 FRI	4/5 SAT	4/11 FRI	4/12 SAT	SKIP	4/16 WED	4/18 FRI	4/19 SAT	4/22 TUE
ASIAN ISLAND	V007	4/11 FRI	4/12 SAT	4/18 FRI	4/19 SAT	4/22 TUE	4/23 WED	4/25 FRI	4/26 SAT	4/29 TUE
STADT HAMBURG	V013	4/18 FRI	4/19 SAT	4/25 FRI	4/26 SAT	SKIP	4/30 WED	5/2 FRI	5/3 SAT	5/6 TUE
MELL SENOKO	V019	4/25 FRI	4/26 SAT	5/2 FRI	5/3 SAT	5/6 TUE	5/7 WED	5/9 FRI	5/10 SAT	5/13 TUE

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# 8 schools square off in mock trial

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA  
editor@saipantribune.com  
EDITOR

Eight public and private high schools in the CNMI will be facing off this week in the 10th annual CNMI High School Mock Trial Competition for the chance to represent the Commonwealth at the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Delaware in May.

The competition, hosted by the CNMI Bar Association, will be held at the Guma Hustitia's Superior and Supreme Courts on March 7 and 8 and will feature four preliminary rounds and a Championship round.

This year's competition centers on a fictitious criminal case brought by the state against Francis Camacho for allegedly murdering Sydney Simmons, a student at Oceania High School. The "incident" happened in front of the Public Affairs Center at Saipan State University, on a clear day in broad daylight.

There is a question as to who actually shot the victim based on witness testimony.

The first day of competition, March 7, will be grueling, featuring three rounds of competition, with Round 1 to be held at 9am, immediately followed by Round 2 at 12pm and Round 3 at 3pm. Round 4 will be held the next day, Saturday, March 8, at 8:30am, immediately followed by the Championship round at 11:30am.

Last year's winner, the Tinian Junior Senior High School, represented the CNMI at the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Dallas, Texas. One of the students, Nikita Mendiola, now a University of Guam student, was honored with the Most Effective Witness award among all the states, territories and countries that competed.

"Our high school students have spent months working with their teacher and volunteer attorney coaches in preparation

for their participation in the mock trial competition. ...The Mock Trial program is a wonderful opportunity for our high school students to develop their advocacy and public speaking skills, understand the law, and meet the demands of academic competition," said Karen Klaver, the CNMI Mock Trial coordinator, in a statement.

Klaver said the CNMI Bar Association is still seeking volunteers to be jurors at the competition. Jurors score the competition by evaluating and scoring individual and team performances.

"The rounds should last about 2 to 2.5 hours, but please allow time before each round for a 15-minute briefing on scoring and for courtroom assignments," she said.

For those who would like to volunteer, e-mail Klaver at klaverk@pss.cnmi.mp with one's preferred times or contact her at 236-3049 (phone), 664-3713 (fax).

The CNMI High School mock trial program was started

10 years ago by the late Justice Ramon G. Villagomez when he was the president of the CNMI Bar Association. The program has continued as a volunteer effort, thanks to dedicated attorneys, teachers, judges, justices and students in the CNMI.

The goals of the competition are promote and further the understanding and appreciation of the judicial system, court procedures, and the legal system, among others.

The program reaches over 80 public and private high school students from Saipan, Rota and Tinian.

Also, "our continued success of the mock trial program depends on the dedication of the students, teachers, attorney coaches and all the volunteers. I extend my gratitude to all the volunteers and dedicated students. We hope you enjoy the case," Klaver said in a statement on the Bar website, <http://www.cnmibar.net/>.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### MMAC Committee, Team Captains' meetings

The 2008 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee will have a team captains' and committee meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2008, at 5:30pm, at the Chamolinian Room of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The Marianas March Against Cancer Committee is inviting all previous and current MMAC team captains to attend this important monthly meeting where information regarding the upcoming 2008 MMAC event will be discussed. The MMAC Committee meeting will be held immediately after. All committee members are encouraged to attend.

The MMAC Committee is inviting all community businesses and residents to help in the fight against cancer by contributing to this worthy cause in any way they can. For more information, email Chris A. Concepcion at [chrisaconcepcion@gmail.com](mailto:chrisaconcepcion@gmail.com). (MMAC)

### MHS Class of '83 meeting

The Marianas High School Class of 1983 is now finalizing details for the upcoming 25th Year Reunion and will have a meeting on Friday, March 14, 2008, at 6:30pm, at the Kilili Beach Pavilion.

This will be our last general meeting until further notice. There will be a "surprise" guest

of honor present at this meeting, so please mark your calendars!

Contact any of the Steering Committee members for details:

- Tonnei Camacho @483-9665
- Viola Kaipat @483-0214
- Jane Tudela @483-5262
- Frances Mildred Cruz @483-0995
- Ester Teregeyo @285-6284
- Ben Sablan @287-1480
- Diego Songsong @287-4300

### Calling on all Palauans on Saipan

The Palauan Community Association-CNMI and its president, Rufino Aguon, is inviting all Palauans residing in the Commonwealth of the Northern

Mariana Islands to a cleanup activity at the PCA land, followed by a general meeting, on Saturday, March 8, 2008.

Work time will be from 8am to 12pm, followed by the general meeting from 1pm to 4pm, at the PCA Land on Navy Hill, Saipan.

"We need work tools like machete, chainsaw, bush-cutters, and small axes. Those who cannot make it, your kind donations of water and food are appreciated," said Eileen N. Kintol, PCA treasurer. (PR)

### SSHS PTA meeting set

To all parents/legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students, there will be a PTA meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at 6pm in the cafeteria.

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MARCH 5, 2001

### Most NMI youths tried smoking

Initial result of the tobacco survey now being conducted by the Department of Public Health disclosed that an estimated eight percent of Commonwealth youth have tried cigarette smoking. This was revealed by DPH Tobacco Master Settlement Advisory Committee member Malinda Matson during the American Cancer Society's 2001 Relay Rally held at the Pacific Island Club Thursday night.

### Local hero honored

Three Saipan children were spared the tragedy of early death because of one man whose heroism will now be forever sculpted on the lives he saved. Commonwealth Ports Authority employee Miguel Aldan was bequeathed with warm accolades Friday for his part in a rescue mission that preserved the lives of three juveniles from drowning off the Sugar dock channel.

### Fast-tracked review of tax amnesty bill eyed

The House of Representatives on Friday transferred to the Committee on Ways and Means the review of a proposed measure that would give delinquent taxpayers a 90-day relief on the filing of their derelict returns. House Bill 12-345 gives remiss taxpayers the opportunity to pay their liabilities to the CNMI government without penalties within 90 days.

MARCH 5, 2002

### Commerce reports five-year low in business revenue

General Fund revenue collections for the period from July to September of 2001 fell by a record-low of 22.07 percent from the previous quarter, while business gross revenue reported also slid by an unprecedented 16.39 percent when compared to the preceding quarter. Latest data released by the Department of Commerce showed that the last quarter of Fiscal Year 2000-2001 showed significant declines in the gross revenue reported by Commonwealth businesses, as well as in General Fund revenue collected.

### Hotel occupancy rate drops to 5-year low

Hotel occupancy rate dropped to 54 percent in 2001, the lowest since 1996, according to a report prepared by the Central Statistics Division of the CNMI Department of Commerce. Although it managed to slightly recover in the first three months of 2000, the NMI hotel industry experienced yet another slump following the September 11 crash attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

### NMI construction sector in 5-year low

After contributing almost \$100 million in total funds circulating around the CNMI economy five years ago, the Northern Marianas construction sector suffered a record five-year low, falling below the \$15 million-mark by end-December 2001. Officials attribute the decline to the staggering number of new investors in the CNMI and the approach taken by existing businesses, which have decided to forego expansion due to weakening consumer confidence amid the recession.

MARCH 5, 2003

### College's accreditation in peril

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges has warned the Northern Marianas College that its accreditation status would be jeopardized if its personnel practices are covered by the Civil Service Commission. "Such a change would constitute noncompliance with Commission standards and would immediately jeopardize the accredited status of the college," said Barbara A. Beno, executive director of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges in a letter dated March 3, 2003, to NMC president Kenneth Wright.

### House committee begins weighing tax hike proposals

House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider has instructed his committee on Ways and Means to start dissecting the tax hike proposals submitted by the administration as part of the latter's Integrated Fiscal Plan. The proposals, which the administration recently presented in the form of legislation—the Commonwealth Revenue Enhancement and Economic Stimulus Act of 2003—seek hikes in the hotel occupancy tax, drivers' licenses and motor vehicle-related fees and the garment user fee, among others.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**BOARD OF PAROLE**

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## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **March 13, 2008 (Thursday)** beginning at 8:30 a.m., and, if need be, to continue on **March 14, 2008, (Friday)** at 9:00 a.m. at the **Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections, Briefing/Training Room, Susupe, Saipan**. The following items are included in the agenda:

<b>I. Preliminary Matters</b>		
1. Call to order		
2. Roll call		
3. Presence of Quorum		
<b>II. Consent Items</b>		
1. Adoption of Agenda		
2. Adoption of Parole Hearing Minutes - February 08, 2008		
<b>III. Parole Application</b>	<b>BOP No.</b>	<b>Criminal Case No.</b>
1. Doreen M. Tudela	08-002	07-0134E
<b>IV. Re-Application</b>	<b>BOP No.</b>	<b>Criminal Case No.</b>
1. Mei Ying Yen	08-RA-002	01-0128D
2. Gabriel Grothog	08-RA-003	02-267E
<b>VI. Adjournment</b>		

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 up to 3302.

/s/ **Ramon B. Camacho**  
Chairman, Board of Parole Date: 3/3/08

**MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust have scheduled a Board of Trustees Special Meeting for Friday, March 7, 2008 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Plumeria Room, Saipan World Resort; Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

<b>I. PRELIMINARIES</b>
■ Call to Order
■ Roll Call
■ Adoption of Agenda
<b>II. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b>
■ Natural Resources Standing Committee Comments
■ Office Space Matters
<b>IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION</b>
<i>At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.</i>
<b>V. MISCELLANEOUS</b>
<b>VI. ADJOURNMENT</b>

\* It is anticipated that the following matters will be discussed under Executive Session in its entirety.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body.

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ **Alvaro A. Santos**  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



# Stiffer penalties sought for alcohol, tobacco violations

By MARK RABAGO  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Michael Ada wants stiffer penalties for establishments that sell alcohol or tobacco to minors, sell alcohol after hours, or stores that sell alcohol or tobacco without licenses.

"Penalties [for violations]

should be updated. We are actually in the process of working with the Legislature. We know that there are a lot of abuses with vendors who sell alcohol and tobacco products," he said in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune* last week.

He said the current monetary penalty for businesses that sell to minors are very minimal—about \$500—and translate to

a mere slap in the wrist for establishments that rake in a lot of profit from selling alcohol and tobacco products.

If it was up top him, Ada said he would like the fine raised to \$5,000 fine as well as padlocking of the store.

"We're looking at increasing the penalties to deter these stores from violating alcohol and tobacco laws. The money stores make selling to minors is actually offsetting any penalties that the government would assess. Penalties should be more stiff," he said.

To this end, Ada along with the department's special assistant, Ed Villagomez, has talked to the House of Representatives Committee on Com-

merce and Tourism, headed by Reps. Ed Salas and Joe Reyes as well as the two's counterpart in the Senate, led by Sen. Jude Hofschneider.

"We feel that this is really a big problem. Businesses should be forewarned that if you're caught, your penalties would be stiffened," he said.

While waiting for new laws that will promulgate stiffer penalties, Ada and Villagomez said that Commerce will exhaust all means to make sure that businesses would be deterred from violating the Commonwealth's alcohol and tobacco laws.

And that may include nontraditional means.

"If you're caught we will

publish your violation on the newspaper. We have to keep our public safe. The alcohol and tobacco control is really a big concern. It really has a big impact on our youth. We're pleased that the House and Senate are looking into this," said Ada.

Aside from working with the Legislature, Ada said Commerce is also doing its part to improve its enforcement of the islands' tobacco and alcohol laws.

These efforts include shifting the hours of impromptu inspections and mixing up the enforcement group.

"Establishments already know our personnel, so we are mixing it up by shifting personnel from area to area," said Ada.

He said ABTC is also in the

process of hiring a new enforcement officer to replace the one that passed away. Ada said they are also cross-training staff from division to division to help with their enforcement efforts.

"Our business community demands that we have legitimate businesses follow the letter of the law and operate within boundaries. You will see that the most prosperous of those businesses are the ones that follow the law," said Ada.

In the fiscal year 2007, ABTC cited four violations, which included three tobacco violations for not having the products in secure casings and one liquor violation for operating after hours.

## Arenovski, Knight talk about DC trip

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Jim Arenovski and Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chair Lynn Knight will speak before today's Chamber membership meeting to discuss the results of their recent trips to Washington D.C. to lobby against federalization and the minimum wage hike.



Arenovski



Knight

Arenovski and Knight are expected to provide an in-depth review of their recent meetings in Washington, D.C. with congressional staffers and department and agency personnel concerning the imposition of federal immigration and the impending next-step increase in the CNMI's minimum wage in May.

The two were in the nation's capital in late January and again in late February.

Chamber executive director Kyle Calabrese said that there may be one or two other guests who will speak about the same topic at the meeting.

The Chamber meeting will be held at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club, beginning at 11:30am for registration and buffet. The meeting starts promptly at noon.

Also, a number of high school principals will join the meeting for the roll out of the Chamber's 2008 scholarship program.

Karen Klaver, the CNMI Mock Trial coordinator, will also talk briefly about the program, which is now in its 10th year, and ask for volunteers to serve as jurors for this event. Jurors score the competition by evaluating and scoring individual and team performances. (Jayvee Vallejera)

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Finance flip-flopping

A case can be made that public financing of presidential campaigns is an idea whose time has come and gone. But that wasn't the opinion of either John McCain or Barack Obama when they indicated that they would make use of public financing—McCain in the primaries, Obama in the general election—as long as his opponent did too. Now both candidates are having unseemly second thoughts.

Public financing—subsidized by a voluntary checkoff on tax returns—was introduced in the post-Watergate 1974 amendments to the Federal Election Campaign Act, which also limited what candidates could spend on their campaigns. But in 1976, the Supreme Court struck down the expenditure limits except for candidates who chose to accept public funds. In the primaries, federal funds match private contributions; in the general election, candidates who accept funding must forgo contributions.

In the beginning, federal funding was an offer candidates found hard to refuse. But in recent years, several trends—rising costs that have outstripped expenditure limits, the outlawing of “soft money” contributions to the parties and the advent of Internet fundraising—have made it less attractive.

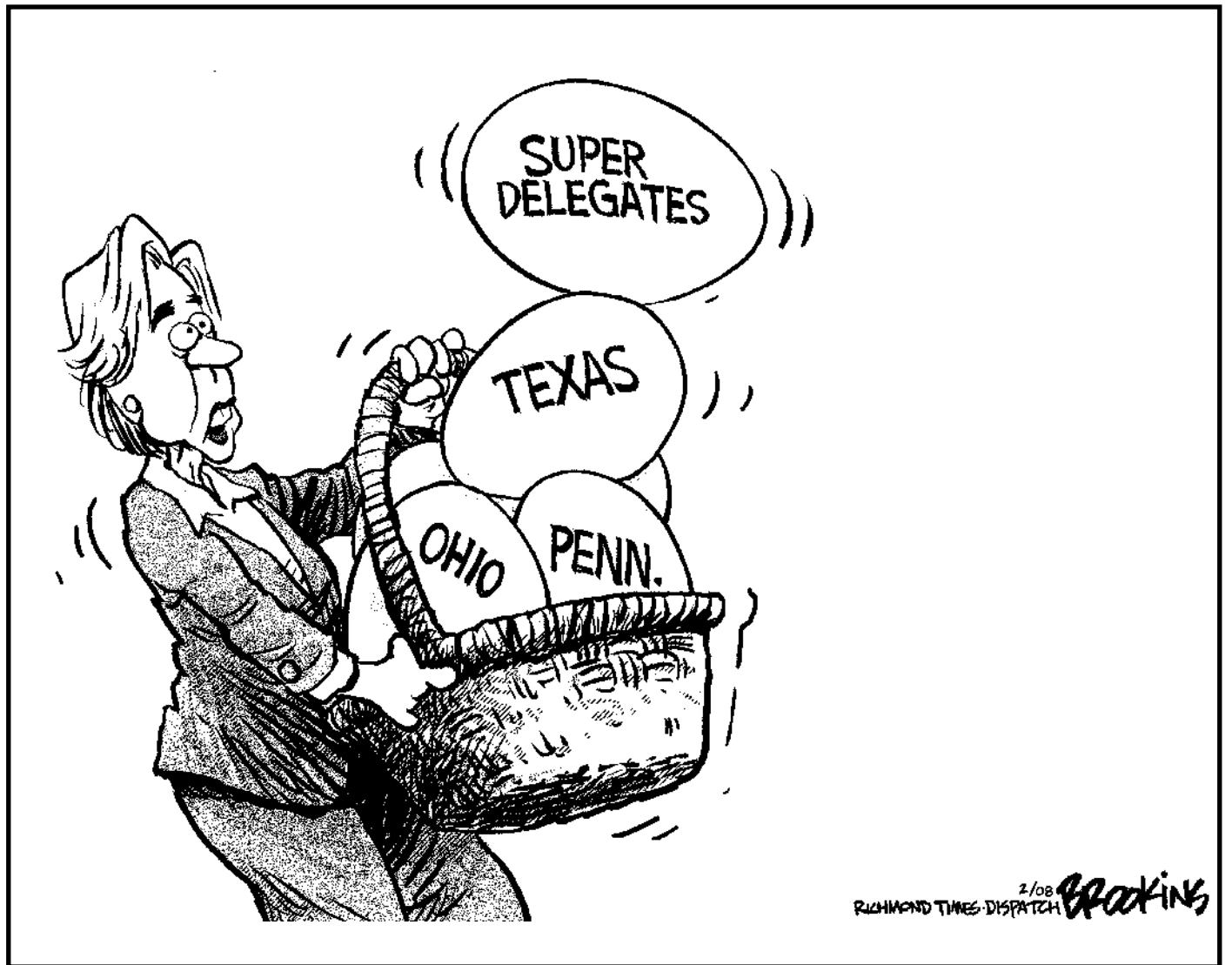
This year, neither Obama nor Hillary Rodham Clinton are accepting public funds for the primaries, and Clinton, if nominated, is expected to reject financing in the general election. McCain, in seeking a campaign loan and in representations to state election authorities, originally indicated he would rely on matching funds in the primary season. But an upsurge in donations has led him to try to withdraw from the system—an action that, in the view of some lawyers, requires permission from the Federal Election Commission. But the FEC currently lacks enough members to grant such approval.

In a debate that only law students could enjoy, McCain's critics suggest that the prospective Republican nominee is legally bound to accept public financing for the rest of the period before the party convention in September—and also bound by spending limits. McCain's defenders reply that he didn't irrevocably commit himself to accepting matching funds and that his eligibility for public funds was not technically collateral for his campaign loan. Legalities aside, it is embarrassing that the senator—the coauthor of the 2002 McCain-Feingold law increasing government oversight of election campaigns—has soured on public financing after taking advantage of the expectation that he would participate in the system.

Obama too experienced what might be called a contribution conversion. Last year, when he was still an underdog to Clinton, a spokesman for his campaign reacted positively to a proposal by McCain that he would accept federal financing in the general election if the Democratic nominee did. But with his new front-runner status—and facing the prospect of raising more private money than McCain in a general election—Obama has begun to waver. Asked in the last Democratic debate if he was waffling on a promise to accept public financing, he dodged, saying that, if nominated, he wants to “sit down with John McCain and make sure that we have a system that is fair for both sides.” That sounds like the “old politics” that Obama inveighs against.

Both candidates should get over their buyer's remorse. What they gain by abandoning public financing, they may lose in credibility.

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## Parallel universe

*The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!*

### Sick in the Brane

As I decompress and get back into the rhythm of life here on Saipan after being in New York for the past month, I can't help thinking about the vastly different lives that people are experiencing 8,000 miles away back in the Big Apple. My conversations recently have focused on the differences in people and processes, and have served to reinforce the sanity of my decision to take the leap I did now two years ago. All I can say is, it was like being in another dimension!

Speaking of which, I saw a documentary recently about the actual existence of other dimensions. Comic book fans like myself were introduced to the concept of other dimensions as we read about superheroes vanishing between these dimensions as they traveled to wage wars against other-worldly villains. Modern-day scientists explore the existence of other dimensions as they seek to understand and explain everything from the Big Bang theory to our very concept of reality. Many unexplained phenomena make sense once we include the existence of other dimensions in our analyses and formulas. A dimension is simply a degree of freedom of movement. As you read this e-mail, for instance, you are living in a three-dimensional space which allows (1) forward/backward, (2) up/down and (3) left/right freedoms to move. Thus, most of us are taught that we live in a 3-dimensional world of length, width and height. (By comparison, the words on a piece of paper exist in the 2-dimensions of length and width only.)

Trapped as we are in our 3-D concept, it's difficult for us to even consider additional ways we can move. Perhaps the best way to think of other dimensions is to think of our own three-dimensional universe as existing on something like a slice of bread within a loaf of many slices; or as a membrane (“brane” for short) like a film screen in a movie theater, or sheets of paper in which all the action of our lives takes place. Other dimensions are simply the other loaves and other screens that, although we can't physically see or touch them by moving within the degrees of freedom we currently recognize, nonetheless exist so close to us that they're RIGHT THERE NEXT TO YOU!

## THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to [walt@passionprofit.com](mailto:walt@passionprofit.com).

But, on a practical level, we don't have to go inter-dimensional traveling to see the effects of what life could be in other dimensions. All we need to do is observe what we allow ourselves to experience in our own daily lives.

There are people sitting next to you on the train, in that other car on the highway or in the house next door who are living vastly different lives, with more emotion, more connection, more freedom, more fulfillment, and a whole different take on what's possible, simply because they think different thoughts. From making money without a job, buying homes with no money down, selling products that don't really exist to having trust in their relationships, living free of illness, and a host of other experiences, all represent different dimensions to which everyone could travel...if they simply took the chance to believe these dimensions are real and could support life.

It's all about the risk. First you dare to dream. Then you take the chance. You risk all you believe, and live a life beyond that which you've let yourself perceive. And, you don't ever have to leave home.

It's right here, right now, right next to you!  
but oh, so hard to see  
A universe of freedoms  
filled with other ways to be

Confined by what you think is real  
and fears you won't disprove  
You live a world that stifles dreams  
and limits ways to move

But others took the chance and left  
and while they seem the same  
Their lives are vastly different  
'cause they play a different game

See PARALLEL on next page



**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Great presidents and the power of words

By **MICHAEL KAZIN**  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

Must a president be eloquent to be successful? That question has sparked a heated quarrel between the campaigns of Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama. The senator from New York stresses “results, not rhetoric,” while her rival contends that a leader has to inspire Americans in order to produce “a new majority who can lead this nation out of a long political darkness.”

In politics as in poker, each candidate plays his or her strongest cards and suspects the opponent of bluffing. Yet the importance of this question shouldn’t be lost amid the clamor of a hard-fought campaign. Political oratory is an ancient craft. In the nearly 2,400 years since Plato defined rhetoric as “winning the soul through discourse,” effective speechmaking has been integral to the pursuit and the wielding of power. And the brief but contentious history of modern U.S. politics suggests that Obama has the better argument.

Most of the presidents who have changed the nation’s course have been charismatic figures who persuaded Americans to share their larger vision. Stirring rhetoric helped them get their most cherished programs through Congress and leave their stamp on the future. Every president in the era of mass media who left office with his popularity intact and with followers eager to build on his legacy was a splendid speaker—from Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt to John F. Kennedy to Ronald Reagan.

National candidates began to adopt an emotional, sermonic style in the 19th century, when evangelical Protestantism was the faith of most Americans. Journalists dissected political orations eagerly and at great length, assuming that a speech revealed the office-seeker’s true character. Typically, they condemned insincerity while praising dramatic performances that seemed to come from the heart, if not the soul. Part of the reason why William Jennings Bryan ran three competitive races for president was that reporters found his unabashedly sentimental speeches as thrilling as his followers did. The usually cynical H.L. Mencken even compared one of them to the finale of Beethoven’s Third Symphony.

As the federal government grew in size and complexity through the 20th century, Americans increasingly expected presidents to make the enterprise of governing seem personal, comprehensible and uplifting. Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson were the first chief executives who understood this desire and worked hard to satisfy it. Both frequently left Washington to deliver speeches around the nation, and nearly every successor has followed their lead.

Yet only a few presidents have done so in a way that launched a new political era.

The difference between merely competent presidential rhetoric and rhetoric that has helped transform the nation brings to mind

Mark Twain’s famous line about the “difference between the al-most-right word and the right word is ... the difference between the lightning bug and the lightning.”

Particularly at a time of national crisis, the quality of oratory can make or break a president. Take the contrast between Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Before he ascended to the White House, Hoover was a national hero: a self-made millionaire who organized food deliveries to millions of refugees during World War I and won the 1928 election in a landslide. Unfortunately, he viewed speechmaking as more a duty to inform than an art that persuades; one associate quipped that listening to him was like taking a bath in a tub of ink.

This proved to be a severe handicap at the onset of the Great Depression. Hoover took quick and vigorous action to reverse the economic slide, including instituting a big tax cut and boosting spending on public works and relief for the unemployed. But his dour style gave Americans the false impression that he neither understood nor cared about their plight.

FDR defeated Hoover in 1932 without advocating a real break from his predecessor’s policies. In fact, the Democratic platform that year actually called for “an immediate and drastic reduction of governmental expenditures” by 25 percent. But Roosevelt was a master at conveying hope and confidence. Although the millions of Americans who were jobless, homeless and hungry had a good deal more to fear than fear itself, his first inaugural address began to knit a close bond between the public and its president.

FDR’s warm, avuncular tone in subsequent performances—both formal speeches and his “fireside chats”—convinced Americans that such programs as the WPA and Social Security were acts of common decency instead of steps toward socialism, as his critics on the right described them.

Three decades later, a new generation of conservatives came to view Reagan as their own FDR. Reagan launched his political career in 1964 with a bravura defense of Barry Goldwater’s doomed presidential campaign. This stand on principle helped him win the governorship of California and, in 1980, the presidency. Upon taking office, Reagan began to gain the public’s confidence by speaking in forthright, colorful ways about the burning issues of a stagnant economy and the Soviet Union’s apparent gains in the Cold War. By contrast, Jimmy Carter’s hand-wringing pathos had made him seem impotent.

Much like FDR, Reagan used his eloquence quite self-consciously to unite a new majority coalition around his political vision. In this sense, Obama was correct when he said in January that the 40th president “put us on a fundamentally different path because the country was ready for it.” Reagan, a onetime New Dealer, could switch deftly between a spiritual and a secular mode as he ridiculed haughty liberals and expressed his faith in what Americans could

do if freed from the shackles of “big government.” With partisan loyalties weakening, Reagan usually depicted himself as less a conservative Republican than an insurgent outsider who fit none of the traditional political categories.

Of course, FDR and Reagan didn’t transform American politics simply by giving enthralling speeches. Each man was fortunate to win the White House at a time when his opponents were discredited and dispirited. Major demographic groups were also turning their way—black and white ethnic workers for FDR, the white South and insecure middle-class Northerners for Reagan. Moreover, the collapse of the Soviet Bloc did for Reagan’s image what victory in World War II had done for FDR’s: It stamped his reputation with the image of moral victory.

But both men’s charismatic rhetoric had lasting influence. After each left the White House, his followers kept quoting his words and refreshing the memory of his performances to rally their own side and force their opponents on the defensive. Their rhetoric didn’t just persuade, it mobilized.

Other modern presidents have achieved a measure of success without giving soaring speeches. Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Lyndon B. Johnson are obvious examples. Yet no member of this trio was able to hand over the keys to the Oval Office to a candidate from his own party. And not until a decade or more after they left office did historians begin to recognize their worth.

Obama may never have the opportunity to match the achievements of Roosevelt or Reagan. His performance on unscripted occasions is less impressive than when he stands before a crowd of supporters, teleprompter rolling. But he has already accomplished a remarkable feat: marshaling his eloquence to persuade millions of Americans that he has both the character and the intelligence to nudge the country toward a more democratic future. Neither Clinton nor John McCain display that talent.

Obama may share something else with FDR and Reagan: the good fortune to be running at a time when the older order—in this case, a conservative one—may be ending. If Obama wins the presidency, he will confront the peril of high expectations. But so did FDR and Reagan, and, in the eyes of their many admirers, they fulfilled their promise.

A century ago, another celebrated talker from Chicago observed that public speaking was ingrained in the nation’s soul. According to Mr. Dooley, the fictional Irish-born saloonkeeper whose observations, as written by political humorist Finley Peter Dunne, were syndicated in papers across the country, “Ivry thrue-born American regards himself as a gr-reat orator.” But only a few of them become great presidents.

*Michael Kazin, a professor of history at Georgetown University, is the author of A Godly Hero: The Life of William Jennings Bryan.*

## Letter to the Editor

# If it’s so bad, why are they still here?

I would like to respond to the letter by WJ Rozier in regards to federalization and my views. Yes, I am fortunate to have been born in the USA. Not something I can change, nor can I change my family name or my skin color. Fortunately, however, logic, caring and forethought has little bearing on your passport or skin color. WJR says USA laws can become tainted by the lobbyist and lawmakers. I too am dismayed at the system the USA has for making laws; it’s the worst system on this planet—save for every single other system. Got a better one in mind?

Yes, the CNMI did utilize lobbyists for what it perceived to be its better interests. Do you think we should stop elected officials from doing what they think and believe the voting citizens

would want them to do? You also suggest later that the politicians should represent and reflect the views of the contract workers. Contract workers can vote in whatever country they came from. Are you suggesting they be allowed to vote here as well? Voting in two places is not very American.

Moving on in the random order of the letter, I do not know where I would be if I was not adopted, nor do I know where you would be if your mother was not allowed in the USA. What if there were no hypothetical situations? I should have more care and be pro-immigration? Why? My wife and boys immigrated to the USA by the book, and it was difficult, as intended by the overwhelming choice of the citizens. I do not presume to be better or know

better than the choice of the citizens. Congratulations on making the lives of two people better. The USA is the largest donor of aid to the Philippines at close to \$120 million of non-food/military aid per year. Add those other two in and the USA would like to give the PI \$11.1 billion (with a B) in FY 2008. My tax dollars make more than two people’s lives better. Yes I want to help make peoples lives better—and if people do not like my opinion or misinterpret my intentions I cannot do anything about people’s lack of perception.

You then say the agreement with the USA was not meant to be permanent. It’s what was agreed to by both sides. Can a state say the same thing and opt out of its association with the USA? Then you go on to use those

near slavery words—“what I see is legal indentured servitude, which is illegal!” If what the contract workers have is so bad, why are there hundreds of applicants for every position? If it’s so bad why don’t we see a mass exodus of contract workers; they have a free flight home! We don’t because it’s not so bad, period. This issue has nothing to do with the love and caring so bantered about. It’s a political issue that pits one group of people against another. The one group is saying they are mistreated, degraded, and liken their position to indentured slaves who are lorded over by a master. They have no love given to them and they need help. I don’t buy it, especially when they come into this relationship willingly, over and over, time and time again. If someone beats or mistreats you, and you have a free ticket out of the relationship, no questions asked, and you stay, then any intelligent person would ask themselves if the

person is telling the real story or just a story to get what they want. If life is so bad, then leave and go get some of the \$11 billion in care we already send you. If not then stay and abide by your word. The USA did not and has not done any favors nor kept its word in regards to the American Indians, the native Alaskans, the native Hawaiians, or the people of Bikini Atoll. I do care about people and when some group or government wants to strip the land from and degrade native indigenous people, it is a fight that no matter how unpopular, I will fight.

My view is simple: The CNMI would be fine without contract workers in the long run, and they should go back to where they came from. Can’t complain about how you are treated then, and no one would argue about green cards or rights.

**William “Bamboo” McCue**  
*Wellington, FL*

## PARALLEL

From Page 10

But all they did was dare to dream  
their lives they could enhance  
And took a step beyond the norm  
and walked out of their trance  
The back and forth, and up and

down  
and left and right men teach  
Won’t work for those dimensions  
that still seem beyond your reach

For risk is how you get there  
and through failure’s how you’ll  
learn  
To step out of your slice of life

beyond earthly concern  
The time will come, quite soon, I hope  
when dreams will conquer fear  
You’ll step beyond and through and  
out  
and one day.....disappear!

For more tips on shifting your life to a parallel universe of a passion-centered

lifestyle, visit [www.passionprofit.com!](http://www.passionprofit.com!)  
■ ■ ■  
Until next week, remember, success is  
a journey, not a destination!

*Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 12 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and*






*profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here in Saipan. To learn more about the Saipanpreneur Project and Walt’s philosophy and formula visit [www.saipanpreneur.com](http://www.saipanpreneur.com) and [www.passion-profit.com](http://www.passion-profit.com)*



Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly clear with a slight chance of showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly clear with a slight chance of showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲82° ▼75°	▲82° ▼75°	▲82° ▼76°	▲81° ▼75°	▲82° ▼76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼74
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼77
Yap	Cloudy	▲85 ▼76
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲88 ▼77
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▼72
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼76
Majuro	Partly Sunny	▲85 ▼76

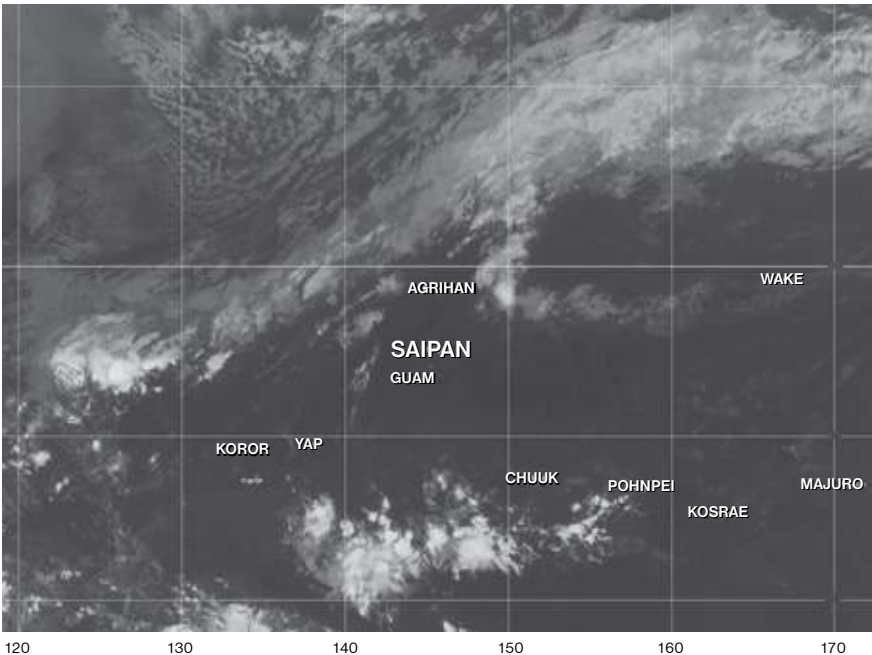
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲66 ▼57
Beijing	Sunny	▲59 ▼32
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼61
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲79 ▼67
London	Partly Sunny	▲52 ▼37
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲72 ▼51
Manila	Cloudy	▲84 ▼75
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲84 ▼70
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼69
New York	Showers	▲50 ▼35
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲43 ▼32
Paris	Cloudy	▲44 ▼30
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲51 ▼30
Rome	Showers	▲52 ▼33
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲54 ▼34
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲64 ▼45
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲43 ▼27
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲48 ▼32
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲58 ▼35

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:05AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
07:08AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:34PM Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
05:34AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line curves eastward from 23N150E to 16N159E to south of Wake Island at 17N167E to beyond the date line at 22N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 125 miles north of the shear line. A stationary front extends northeastward from 14N130E to north of the CNMI at 21N145E through a circulation centered at 25N150E. Extensive cloudiness and patchy rain are occurring along and up to 250 miles northwest of the front. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Yap and just south of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 150 miles of a line from 3N136E to 5N158E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers east of Majuro and Tarawa within 150 miles of a line from 10N174E to 2N180.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:32AM	6:26PM
Thursday	6:31AM	6:26PM
Friday	6:30AM	6:26PM
Saturday	6:30AM	6:26PM
Sunday	6:29AM	6:26PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	04:31AM	04:10PM
Thursday	05:14AM	05:05PM
Friday	05:55AM	06:01PM
Saturday	06:35AM	06:56PM
Sunday	07:15AM	07:52PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
  - Fax: (670) 235-3740
  - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
  - Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

#### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEBRUARY 15, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 5:00am 5:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 078 8:25am 1:30pm Daily via Nagoya  NW 075 4:50pm 7:30pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:35am 3:05pm Daily NW 077 6:15pm 1:10am+1 Daily via Nagoya
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:30pm 7:25pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:40am 3:10pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:25am 11:05am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 8:45pm 1:10am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Manila</b> CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	<b>Manila-Saipan</b> CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:40am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 4:00am 7:35am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Saipan-Shanghai</b> MU 590 4:20am 7:00am 2,6	<b>Shanghai-Saipan</b> MU 589 8:05pm 3:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror  CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 8:00pm 9:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 5:25am+1 3 via Koror CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap  CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 11:10pm 4:40am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 7:45pm 10:40pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 11:40pm 6:20am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

**STOCK Portfolio**

**ASIAN MARKETS**

<b>AUSTRALIA</b> 5,453.30 Down 57.40 (-1.04%)	<b>HONG KONG</b> 23,558.76 Down 26.11 (-0.11%)
<b>JAKARTA</b> 2,626.32 Down 26.00 (-0.98%)	<b>TOKYO</b> 13,014.03 Up 21.85 (+0.17%)
<b>K. LUMPUR</b> 1,330.61 Down 26.79 (-1.97%)	<b>MANILA</b> 3,108.72 Up 28.73 (+0.93%)
<b>SINGAPORE</b> 2,925.08 Down 1.47 (-0.05%)	<b>SEOUL</b> 1,668.84 Down 2.89 (-0.17%)
<b>BANGKOK</b> 612.75 Up 2.02 (+0.33%)	

**LEADING INDICATORS**

**DOW**  
12,258.90  
-7.49

**NASDAQ**  
2,258.60  
-12.88

**S&P**  
1,331.34  
+0.71

**MONEY MARKET**

Australian Dollar	1.073
British Pound	0.5039
Canadian Dollar	0.9905
Chinese Renmbi	7.108
Euro	0.658
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7828
Indian Rupee	40.257
Indonesian Rupiah	9090.5
Japanese Yen	103.31
Malaysian Ringgit	3.1915
New Zealand Dollar	1.2456
Philippine Peso	40.632
Singapore Dollar	1.391
South Korean Won	947.45
Swiss Franc	1.0412
Taiwan Dollar	30.862
Thailand Baht	31.638

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press



Truck driver Mike Monnin fills his tank with diesel fuel at a cost of \$3.959 per gallon at a truck stop off the New York State Thruway near Buffalo in Pembroke, N.Y., Monday March 3, 2008.

## Dollar hits historic lows, again

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The dollar briefly fell to historic levels Monday on news that construction spending took its biggest nosedive in 14 years, extending a string of record lows for the U.S. currency.

The euro purchased as much as \$1.5266 in New York trading, topping the previous intraday record of \$1.5238 it hit Friday. The euro gave up some gains and was trading at \$1.5192 later in the day.

The British pound fell to \$1.9847 from \$1.9883, while

the dollar slid to 103.18 Japanese yen from 103.96 yen, trading near three-year lows.

Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda said that sudden foreign exchange moves are not desirable, Kyodo News agency reported.

"I think the situation represents a weak dollar, rather than a strong yen. Either way, too sharp foreign exchange moves are not good," Fukuda said. "We're carefully watching the development."

The Commerce Department

reported Monday that construction spending plunged by 1.7 percent in January.

Another report showed fallout from housing and credit problems cutting deeper into manufacturing.

The Institute for Supply Management's manufacturing index clocked in at 48.3 in February. That was the weakest reading in nearly five years. A reading above 50 indicates expansion. Anything below that shows contraction.

## Stocks flat after weak economic data

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Wall Street closed narrowly mixed Monday as investors wrestled with record-high commodities prices and data that pointed to a continually weakening economy.

Investors have been trying to determine whether recent pessimism about the economy has been well-founded or overwrought. The Institute for

Supply Management's index of U.S. manufacturing activity came in Monday at 48.3 - indicating a milder contraction than the 48.1 the market expected, but still, its lowest level in nearly five years.

Furthermore, the Commerce Department reported that construction spending in January fell by 1.7 percent, the steepest amount in 14 years.

The Dow Jones industrial average - after slumping more than 100 points briefly during afternoon trading - finished down 7.49, or 0.06 percent, to 12,258.90.

Broader stock indicators were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 0.71, or 0.05 percent, to 1,331.34, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 12.88, or 0.57 percent, to 2,258.60.

## Automakers suffer Feb. double whammy

**DETROIT (AP)**—Automakers got hit where it hurts in February, with U.S. sales of their most profitable vehicles—trucks, sport utilities and large sedans—plunging as consumers reacted to high gas prices and the possible recession. General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. announced second-quarter production cuts in the face of the falling sales.

GM reported a sales decline of almost 13 percent for the month while Ford's sales slumped 7 percent, Chrysler's tumbled 14 percent and Toyota's fell 3 percent. It was expected to be a difficult month for automakers as consumer confidence continued to slide. Declines in home construction also have significantly weakened truck sales.

Mark LaNeve, GM's vice president for North American



Unsold 2008 Sequoias sit at a Toyota dealership in the southeast Denver suburb of Centennial, Colo., Sunday, Feb. 3, 2008.

sales and marketing, said tightening automotive credit standards may also be hurting sales.

"On the edges of a difficult market, it's one of those things that makes it more difficult," LaNeve said.

If the February sales rate held steady for the full year, U.S. sales would be 15.4 million units in 2008, according to Autodata Corp. That's down from a rate of 16.6 million units last February.

## Oil hits record high, hurting nearly all

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The price of oil gushed to a record high Monday, spreading dangerously to factories, groceries, gas stations and every citizen's pocketbook.

Builders are building less, the government reported. Manufacturers are cutting back, another report said. General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. said they would cut second-quarter production.

The galloping energy prices are doubly painful as the nation teeters on the edge of recession: High energy costs push companies to charge shoppers higher prices, then those consumers and businesses cut back in turn, dumping more cold water on the economy.

"It's like throwing sands in the wheels of the economy," said Brian Bethune, economist at Global Insight. "Things slow down. There is more friction and there is more complaining."

Oil prices marched past \$103 a barrel on Monday, the latest in a recent string of record-high oil prices, before settling at \$102.45.

The steep run-up in oil and other energy prices "hits deeper and deeper into the consumers' ability to spend. With a lot of households stretched by high food prices as well, it creates real problems,"

said Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors.

Reports Monday showed factories feeling the sting of soaring costs for oil as well as other raw materials - pushing production costs higher even as some have to cope with fallout from a sour housing market that has sapped demand for their products.

Manufacturers in February logged their weakest performance in nearly five years, the Institute for Supply Management said. Industries that suffered declines included makers of furniture, textiles, machinery and chemical products.

Construction spending plunged by 1.7 percent in January, the biggest decline in 14 years, the government said. Cutbacks covered a wide range, from home building to hotels to highways.

Unsure what to make of it all, Wall Street ended the day narrowly mixed. The Dow Jones industrials dropped 7 points.

The average price of a gallon of gasoline stood at \$3.165 Monday, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. The Energy Department expects gas prices to peak at a record level near \$3.40 this spring, and some analysts predict pump prices could rise to nearly \$4 a gallon when the busy summer driving season arrives.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Intel lowers gross profit margin outlook

**SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)**—Intel Corp. lowered its profit forecast for its fiscal first quarter Monday, blaming the shortfall on a steeper-than-expected drop in prices for memory chips. The Santa Clara-based company, the world's largest semiconductor maker, said slumping prices for a type of memory called NAND flash depressed profits more than anticipated. NAND flash is commonly used in portable electronic devices like digital cameras and MP3 players. Intel said its gross profit margin—a key measure of profitability that gauges a company's ability to control manufacturing costs—would come in at 54 percent of revenues, plus or minus a percentage point. That's down from its previous forecast of 56 percent, plus or minus a couple percentage points.

#### Merck says 44K sign for Vioxx settlement

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—More than 44,000 people have signed up for shares of a \$4.85 billion settlement over the withdrawn painkiller Vioxx, a sign that the deal is on track to go forward, Merck & Co. announced Monday. Of roughly 47,000 people who registered for the settlement earlier this year, more than 44,000 have submitted all or some of the paperwork necessary for enrollment in the deal, Merck said in a news release. People who enrolled in the settlement by this past Friday could be eligible to receive an interim payment later this year.

#### Buffett: US essentially in recession

**OMAHA, Neb. (AP)**—Billionaire Warren Buffett said Monday that the U.S. economy is essentially in a recession even if it hasn't met the technical definition of one yet. Buffett said in an interview with cable network CNBC the reports he gets from the retail businesses his holding company owns show a significant slowdown in purchases. The chairman and CEO of Omaha-based Berkshire Hathaway Inc. said millions of people have also lost equity in their homes because home prices have dropped. "I would say, by any commonsense definition, we are in a recession," Buffett said on CNBC. But Buffett said it's not clear how far the recession will go because that is difficult to predict.



# Nation

## ACROSS THE NATION

### 2 soldiers slain in Wash. state

**TACOMA, Wash. (AP)**—A Fort Lewis soldier has been arrested for investigation of killing a military couple and abducting their 7-month-old girl, sheriff's deputies said. The 22-year-old woman was booked into the county jail Sunday night for investigation of two counts of first-degree murder and one count of kidnapping, Pierce County Sheriff's spokesman Ed Troyer said. The woman is an active-duty soldier with I Corps at the Army base south of Tacoma and a member of the honor guard, Troyer said. Acting on information from the Army, deputies went to a home south of Tacoma on Sunday and found a man and a woman dead, Troyer said.

### Ex-Newark mayor's fraud trial begins

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)**—Former Newark Mayor Sharpe James abused his office by steering discounted city property to a girlfriend who then sold the parcels for large profits, a prosecutor told jurors Monday at James' fraud trial. "This case is about fraud, favoritism and concealment," Assistant U.S. Attorney Phillip Kwon said in his opening statement. James got romance while co-defendant Tamika Riley made profits by quickly selling the land instead of redeveloping it as required, Kwon said. "The only people who didn't benefit from these land deals were the people of Newark," Kwon told the jury. James and Riley have pleaded not guilty and are free on bail. James, 72, faces five charges, including fraud and conspiracy. Riley, 38, faces those charges and eight others, including tax evasion.

### Feds mum on home search in ricin case

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)**—The FBI searched a home in Utah and three storage units linked to a man possibly sickened by the deadly toxin ricin that was discovered in his motel room, but remained quiet Monday about what they found. In a statement, the FBI said only that the search had concluded and there was no health threat discovered at the home or the storage units. Authorities believed they had recovered all of the ricin in several vials found last week from the Las Vegas Strip motel where Roger Von Bergendorff had stayed, but they wanted to also check the home in Riverton, where Bergendorff had lived.

### Woman guilty of killing ex-lover's wife

**FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP)**—A woman who donned a black mask, ordered her ex-lover's wife to her knees and shot her twice in the head was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole Monday. "You carried out this plan with great planning and deliberation," Judge Roger Klein told Shawna Nelson. "You deserve to serve every day of the sentence I will impose." Nelson showed little emotion as the verdict was read and declined the judge's invitation to make a statement before he handed down the sentence. Her attorneys said they will appeal her conviction. Nelson killed Heather Garraus, 37, on Jan. 23, 2007. A Weld County sheriff's dispatcher at the time, Nelson had a long affair with Garraus' husband, Ignacio, who was a Greeley police officer.

## Drug sentencing guidelines take effect

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Marsha Cunningham was no drug dealer. But when authorities busted her boyfriend in the 1990s for selling crack and powdered cocaine, they also arrested her on a crack possession charge.

Her sentence: Fifteen years behind bars, only two less than her boyfriend got.

But Cunningham is now one of nearly 20,000 inmates convicted of crack offenses who may see their prison terms reduced under new federal guidelines intended to bring retroactive fairness to drug sentencing.

"Marsha is a really good person," said her aunt, Ruby Jones of Houston. "She got caught up in this behind her boyfriend."

The sentencing guidelines went into effect Monday—the result of a December decision by the U.S. Sentencing Commission to ease the way the system came down far harder on crack-related crimes than on those involving powdered cocaine.

Previously, a person with one gram of crack would receive the

same sentence as someone with 100 grams of the powdered form of cocaine. The disparity has been decried as racially discriminatory, since four of every five crack defendants in the U.S. are black, while most powdered-cocaine convictions involve whites.

"The sentences for crack cocaine have been one of the most corrosive and unjust areas of criminal law," said Michael Nachmanoff, head of the federal public defender's office for the Eastern District of Virginia. "It's really undermined respect for the criminal justice system, not only in the African-American community but throughout the country."

Nachmanoff said four clients of his office were being released under the new guidelines Monday.

About 1,600 inmates are eligible for immediate release this week, but there is no way to know exactly how many will ultimately be freed, since each prisoner has to ask for a reduction and go before a judge. The remainder of the 19,500 crack defendants will become eligible for release over the next 30 years.

## Fireman, gunman dead in Wendy's shooting

**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)**—A gunman wearing a jacket and tie wordlessly and randomly opened fire inside a Wendy's during the lunchtime rush Monday, killing a firefighter who'd gone back to fetch a missing meal toy for his child and wounding five others. He then turned the gun on himself.

"This was not a robbery. He didn't demand anything," said Paul Miller, a Palm Beach County sheriff's spokesman. "Looks like this was just another random shooting like we've seen around the United States."

The 42-year-old victim, a Palm Beach County Fire-Rescue lieutenant who was not in uniform, had met his wife and child at the restaurant, Deputy Fire-Rescue Chief Steve Delai said. The family had gotten their



This undated photo provided by the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, shows Lt. Rafael Vazquez, who was killed in shooting spree at a Wendy's restaurant in West Palm Beach Fla., Monday March 3, 2008.

food and walked out, but the man returned because the free toy was missing from the kids'

meal, he said.

The lieutenant, who had been promoted in January and was on his break from new officers' training at a building down the street, was shot in the back as he stood at the counter, Delai said.

"Our officer probably didn't even see him," Delai said, adding that the man's wife and child were still in the parking when the shooting broke out.

Three of the survivors were critically wounded, but all had improved and were hospitalized in stable condition Monday evening, Miller said. They included a 43-year-old man, a 16-year-old girl, a 65-year-old man and his 62-year-old wife. One person was injured while running away.

Motorists at the drive-thru window also fled, some leaving

their vehicles running. Several people were carried from the restaurant on stretchers. Authorities did not identify the shooter or the other victims.

"I just saw a lady with a little boy in her arms come running out screaming, 'Somebody's shooting!'" said Sandra Jackson, who had been getting gas across the street. The woman said her husband was still inside, said Jackson, 43, of Palm Springs.

The mayhem unfolded just after noon during the lunch hour rush at the eatery on a major suburban road lined with strip malls, car dealerships and fast food restaurants, about five miles from downtown West Palm Beach. A billboard advertising an upcoming gun show stands just behind the Wendy's.

## Texas, Ohio could decide Dem nomination

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton reached for the finish line of contentious Ohio and Texas primary campaigns on Monday as senior Democrats expressed concern the party could suffer this fall if their struggle goes much longer.

"I'm just getting warmed up," said Clinton, looking beyond this week's contests and shrugging off 11 straight primary and caucus defeats as well as a three-digit deficit in delegates.

The former first lady campaigned from Ohio, where she

accused Obama of double talk on NAFTA, to Texas, where her new television commercial questioned his readiness to serve as commander in chief.

Obama spent his day in Texas, a state rich in military bases, where he pledged to begin the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq next year and envisioned a "seamless transition from active duty to civilian life" for men and women who leave the armed forces.

But he was shadowed by allegations that he had overstated

his opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement to win votes back in Ohio. He told reporters his campaign never gave Canada back-channel assurances that his criticism of NAFTA, which is wildly unpopular in Ohio, amounted to political posturing.

"Nobody reached out to the Canadians to try to assure them of anything," he said at a news conference in Carrollton, Texas.

In addition to Texas and Ohio, Rhode Island and Vermont hold primaries on Tuesday. The four

races have a total of 370 national convention delegates at stake.

Obama has won 11 straight contests, and leads in the Associated Press delegate count, 1,386-1,276. His margin is greater among delegates chosen in the primaries and caucuses, 1,187-1,035, while Clinton leads among party officials, known as superdelegates, 241-199.

Obama has been gaining ground among superdelegates in recent weeks as his victories have piled up, and Clinton's support has begun to erode.

## Luxury homes burn in apparent eco-attack



Firefighters spray a flaming house at the scene of where four multimillion dollar homes burned Monday, March 3, 2008, in Woodinville, Wash.

**WOODINVILLE, Wash. (AP)**—Three seven-figure dream homes went up in flames early Monday in a Seattle suburb, apparently set by eco-terrorists who left a sign mocking the builders' claims that the 4,000-plus-square-foot houses were environmentally friendly.

The sign—a sheet marked with spray paint—bore the initials ELF, for Earth Liberation Front, a loose collection of radi-

cal environmentalists that has claimed responsibility for dozens of attacks since the 1990s.

The sheriff's office estimated that Monday's pre-dawn fires did \$7 million in damage to the "Street of Dreams," a row of unoccupied, furnished luxury model homes where tens of thousands of visitors last summer eyed the latest in high-end housing, interior design and landscaping. Three homes were destroyed and two

suffered smoke damage.

Crews removed incendiary devices found in the homes, Snohomish County District 7 Fire Chief Rick Eastman said. Later, however, Kelvin Crenshaw, special agent in charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Seattle, said there was no evidence such devices had been used.

The FBI was investigating the fires as a potential domestic ter-

rorism act, said FBI spokesman Rich Kolko in Washington, D.C.

No injuries were reported in the fires, which began before dawn in the wooded subdivision and were still smoldering by midmorning.

The sign left behind said in red scraggly letters, "Built Green? Nope black!" and "McMansions in RCDs r not green," a reference to rural cluster developments.



# Asia

## 10 killed in UN chopper crash in Nepal

**KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)**—A United Nations helicopter crashed Monday while flying in bad weather in Nepal's mountainous east, killing seven U.N. staff and three crew, U.N. officials said.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expressed "great sorrow" after learning of the crash.

The helicopter went down about 125 miles east of Kathmandu as it was returning to the capital from a Maoist cantonment site in eastern Nepal's mountainous region, U.N. officials said. Nepalese authorities said the helicopter was flying in bad weather.

Villagers reported seeing a

ball of fire after the crash. Nepalese authorities were unable to send rescue helicopters to the area due to the rain and darkness and the only rescue units were on foot, police official Chinu Acharya said by telephone.

Mohan Adhikari, chief of the air rescue unit at Katmandu air-

port, said rescuers had pulled 10 bodies from the wreckage.

Earlier, the Russian Transport Ministry said the craft was a Russian-made Mi-8 and was carrying eight passengers and three crew members—two Russians and a Belarusian. The discrepancy could not immediately

be explained.

Sudden rain on Monday had forced the cancellation of many scheduled commercial flights. Flying in bad weather is often difficult in Nepal's mountainous terrain. Pilots often use their vision to navigate through the mountains and depend less on instruments.

The United Nations has been helping Nepal's peace process since 2006, when communist rebels gave up their armed revolt and joined mainstream politics. The rebels confined their combatants and weapons in camps under the supervision of U.N. arms monitors.



### CHINA CONFERENCE

Chinese hostesses pour tea into cups for the delegates before the opening session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference at the Great Hall of People in Beijing Monday, March 3, 2008. The Beijing Olympics, Taiwan, rising inflation and a plan to streamline the central government were highlighted Monday as government goals at the opening of China's legislative season.

## Three NATO soldiers are wounded in Afghan blast

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—A suicide car bomber attacked a government building protected by NATO and Afghan troops in eastern Afghanistan on Monday, collapsing a guard post and wounding three NATO soldiers inside, officials said.

Two Afghan policemen were also wounded in the attack, said district chief Lutfulah Babakarheil.

The attacker rammed the explosives-laden car into the gates of the building in the Yaquobi district of eastern Khost province, said Khost Gov. Arsallah Jamal.

Babakarheil initially said the building was an American base. But Jamal said it was an Afghan government district building inside compound that also houses a unit of U.S. soldiers.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Dave Accetta, a spokesman for NATO troops in eastern Afghanistan, said three NATO soldiers were wounded when the guard post collapsed. They were evacuated

for medical care to the main U.S. military base at Bagram airfield.

Accetta would not disclose the soldiers' nationalities because of strict rules set by NATO. However, the majority of international forces in Khost province are American.

Clashes and raids in the south, meanwhile, left more than 20 Taliban fighters dead or wounded, officials said.

On Sunday, U.S.-led coalition troops targeted a Taliban commander in Garmser district of Helmand province, the coalition said.

"Several insurgents were killed when they fired on coalition forces," who detained four men with suspected links to the militants, the coalition said in a statement.

Also Sunday, Afghan and foreign troops clashed with militants in Helmand's Sangin district, resulting in 20 casualties, the Defense Ministry said. It did not provide a breakdown of the number of dead and wounded militants.

## 71 Myanmar, Bangladesh citizens rescued after days at sea

**COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)**—The Sri Lankan navy said it rescued 71 Myanmar and Bangladeshi citizens on board a vessel found drifting in the Indian Ocean on Monday after its engine failed.

Twenty other people died from a lack of water and food as

the boat drifted for 12 days, said navy spokesman Cmdr. D.K.P. Dassanayake, citing survivors' accounts.

The vessel was about 170 miles from the eastern coast when the navy found it after being tipped off by fishermen, Dassanayake said.

The survivors—50 Myanmar nationals and 21 Bangladeshis—were treated by navy medical teams and are out of danger, he said.

Survivors said the 50-foot vessel left Myanmar on Feb. 9 with 91 people aboard and began drifting after it developed

engine trouble on Feb. 20, Dassanayake said.

He said the navy suspects the vessel could be linked to a human smuggling group because an initial investigation showed the passengers were heading for Malaysia or Thailand seeking employment.

## Strong quake shakes Philippines

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Officials closed schools in the Bicol region southeast of Manila on Tuesday as a series of aftershocks to a powerful earthquake and heavy rains increased the risk of landslides in the area.

A 6.9 magnitude earthquake rocked Legazpi city in Albay province, site of the restive Mayon volcano, and southern Leyte province on Monday night, the U.S. Geological Survey said. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage, but brief power outages were reported in some areas.

Officials ordered elementary and high school classes suspended in the region due to flooding caused by heavy rains and the risk that landslides may be triggered by the rains and earthquake.

Some 126 villages in Albay province alone are considered highly vulnerable to landslides, said Jukes Nunez, a provincial disaster-response official.

The quake hit at 10:11 p.m. (1411GMT) Monday with an epicenter in the ocean 184 kilometers (114 miles) northeast of Catarman in Northern Samar province, at a

depth of 56 kilometers (35 miles), said Ishmael Narag, head of the seismology section of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

At least 130 aftershocks have been recorded, the institute said. One of the aftershocks Tuesday morning had a 5.9 magnitude, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Edna Meregildo, a government social worker who lives in Catarman, said she was washing the dishes when the ground shook, followed by a power outage.

"It was quite strong. I exclaimed, 'God, please stop this,'" Meregildo told The Associated Press by telephone on Monday.

Arvin Unay, a staffer of Northern Samar's provincial disaster management unit, said the quake toppled a vase in his office but no damage was reported in his province.

Cedric Daep, an Albay provincial disaster-response official, said he ordered his men to check for possible landslides triggered by the quake in mountainous areas and in villages at the foot of Mayon volcano, but had heard of no immediate problems.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Police tear gas Pakistani lawyers

**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)**—Police fired tear gas Monday to disperse scores of attorneys demanding that President Pervez Musharraf reinstate the chief justice, who has been under house arrest since a sweeping crackdown last year. The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, meanwhile, arrived in Islamabad for talks with Musharraf and the military leadership. It was the second visit in a month by Adm. Mike Mullen, reflecting U.S. concerns over a growing insurgency by al-Qaida and Taliban militants in the tribal region near Pakistan's border with Afghanistan. The police fired several tear gas canisters at about 200 lawyers and other demonstrators, who were shouting slogans outside the residence of ousted Chief Justice

Ifthikhar Mohammed Chaudhry.

#### Pakistan frees Indian spy suspect

**LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)**—Pakistani authorities on Monday freed an Indian man who spent 35 years in prison, most of them on death row, after he was accused of spying. Kashmir Singh, who is about 60 years old, was released from a prison in the eastern city of Lahore on the order of President Pervez Musharraf, said Javed Latif, superintendent of the Kot Lakhpath prison. "I am seeing the lights, the hustle and bustle. I feel like I'm in some other world," he told The Associated Press while being driven through Lahore. "Listen, I am laughing. I don't remember the last time I laughed like this." Singh was scheduled to reunite with his family Tuesday

on the Indian side of Wagah, the main border crossing between the two countries.

#### North Korea winter threatens food supply

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—An abnormally dry and mild winter has hampered the growth of some crops in North Korea, state media reported Monday in a development that could exacerbate the impoverished country's chronic food shortages. Temperatures rarely dropped below minus 5 degrees, Kim Mun Uk, an official at the North's Hydro-Meteorological Service told the official Korean Central News Agency. There was also scant snow or rain in the capital, Pyongyang, or in western and eastern coastal regions between mid-December and Feb. 21, the report said.



# World

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Kremlin signals tough line after vote

MOSCOW (AP) -- President Vladimir Putin fast-tracked the transfer of power to his newly elected protege Monday and signaled the Kremlin won't back down from its pull-no-punches anti-U.S. foreign policy or ease up on its critics at home. President-elect Dmitry Medvedev credited his overwhelming election victory Sunday to Putin's policies that have "so effectively been pursued in recent years." Medvedev has stressed he will pursue Putin's foreign and domestic agenda, and in a sign that little would change, Russia squeezed natural gas supplies to Western-leaning Ukraine, and police in Moscow manhandled opposition protesters who denounced the election as a farce.

### Palestinians call drones a deadly weapon

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) -- Palestinians say they know when an Israeli drone is in the air: Cell phones stop working, TV reception falters and they can hear a distant buzzing. They also know what's likely to come next - a devastating explosion on the ground. Palestinians say Israel's pilotless planes have been a major weapon in its latest offensive in Gaza, which has killed nearly 120 people since last week. "Our experience is that the drone missile is successful in hitting its targets, and it's deadly," said Dr. Mahmoud Assali, a Palestinian physician who works in the emergency room of a northern Gaza Strip hospital that has often treated Palestinian gunmen hit by Israeli drones.

### Iran defiant over new UN nuke sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -- The U.N. Security Council imposed another round of sanctions on Iran for refusing to suspend uranium enrichment, but Iran defiantly vowed Monday to continue its nuclear program despite the nearly unanimous censuring vote. The resolution authorized a third set of sanctions targeting individuals, companies and equipment that could be used in Iran's nuclear program. It was adopted on a vote of 14-0, with Indonesia abstaining. Two previous sanctions resolution were adopted unanimously, but diplomats said this vote still sent a strong message to the Tehran government that there is global concern that Iran is trying to produce nuclear weapons. Iran insists the program is aimed only at generating power.

### Charges dropped against Iraqi officials

BAGHDAD (AP) -- An Iraqi court dropped charges Monday against two former Health Ministry officials accused of allowing Shiite death squads to use ambulances and government hospitals to carry out kidnappings and killings. The three-judge panel cited a lack of evidence in its decision, which came despite serious reports of witness intimidation. Minority Sunnis have viewed the case as a major test of the judiciary in this Shiite-dominated country, and the ruling was likely to hurt U.S. efforts to promote national reconciliation between the Muslim sects. A lawmaker with Sunni Arab Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi's Sunni Islamic Party called the decision a "betrayal of the Iraqi judicial system."

## Colombia: Chavez funding FARC rebels



Weapons found at a former camp of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, sit on the ground in Angostura, Ecuador, Monday, March 3, 2008. AP

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) -- Venezuela and Ecuador sought Monday to make Colombia pay a high price for killing a leftist rebel leader in the Ecuadorean jungle - expelling its diplomats, ordering troops to the border and cracking down on trade across the border.

But Colombia quickly struck back, revealing what it said were incriminating documents seized from the rebel camp that suggest its neighbors have been secretly supporting the leftist rebels' deadly insurgency.

And in a tit-for-tat move, Venezuela later displayed the laptop of a slain drug trafficker, which it said contained information implicating Colombia's national police chief in the cocaine trade.

Ecuadorean President Rafael Correa piled on the pressure saying Colombia's killing of the rebel leader Raul Reyes Saturday had scuttled talks between his government and the guerrillas to free 12 rebel-held hostages, including French-Colombian politician Ingrid Betancourt and three U.S. defense contractors.

"I'm sorry to tell you that the conversation were pretty advanced to free 12 hostages, including Ingrid Betancourt, in Ecuador," said Correa in a televised address. "All of this was frustrated by the war-mongering, authoritarian hands" of the Colombian government.

Colombia's national police chief stood by its attack that killed Reyes, and said that documents recovered from his laptop showed Venezuela's leftist government recently paid \$300 million to the rebels, among other financial and political ties that date back years, and that high-level meetings have been held between rebels and Ecuadorean officials.

And this shocker: Colombia says some documents suggest the rebels have bought and sold uranium.

"When they mention negotiations for 50 kilos of uranium this means that the FARC are taking big steps in the world of terrorism to become a global aggressor. We're not talking of domestic guerrilla but transnational terrorism," Gen. Oscar Naranjo said at an explosive news conference.

## US strikes at terror target in Somalia

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—The U.S. Navy fired at least one missile into a southern Somali town before dawn Monday, targeting a terrorism suspect as an Islamic group with links to al-Qaida appears to be gathering sway again in this lawless African nation.

Residents and police in Dohley said at least eight people, including four children, were seriously injured when a home

was destroyed. The attack was confirmed by U.S. officials, who said only that the target was a "known al-Qaida terrorist."

The U.S. military has staged several attacks on suspected extremists in Somalia over the past year amid fears the Horn of Africa country could become a haven for terrorists.

"As we have repeatedly said, we will continue to pursue terrorist activities and their operations

wherever we may find them," Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said in Washington.

Whitman declined to provide any details, including the target's identity, the fate of the targeted individual or reports of any other casualties.

Another defense official told The Associated Press that the strike used one or more Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from a U.S. submarine

off Somalia's coast. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss details.

White House spokesman Gordon Johndroe told reporters that "the action was to go after al-Qaida and al-Qaida-affiliated terrorists," suggesting it may have been designed to hit more than one person. Like Whitman, Johndroe declined to provide any details.

## Ahmadinejad: US power crippling in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) -- Iran's firebrand president wrapped up his landmark visit to Iraq with a bit of added swagger Monday - insisting that U.S. power is crippling the region and portraying himself as the enduring partner of Baghdad's Shiite-led government.

The parting words and posturing - like nearly every moment of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's two-day trip - was powerful political theater seeking to empha-

size Iran's growing bonds with its former enemy. U.S. officials had a front row seat.

Ahmadinejad, the first Iranian leader to visit Iraq since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution, had no direct dealings with American envoys or the military. But Washington and its Sunni Arab allies were high on



Ahmadinejad

his agenda - taking every opportunity to send messages about Shiite Iran's rising influence in the region and its special ties to Iraq's Shiite majority.

For Washington, however, this is not a new lesson.

The toppling of Saddam Hussein's Sunni-heavy regime

## UK enlisted astrologer to fight Hitler

LONDON (AP) -- Desperate for a glimpse into Adolf Hitler's unpredictable mind, British spies hired an astrologer during World War II to write horoscopes for him and other Nazi leaders, documents declassified Tuesday show. They soon regretted it.

The file released to Britain's National Archives catalogs the frustrations of MI5 handlers as they tried to prevent the astrologer, Louis de Wohl, from publicly embarrassing high-ranking intelligence and military officers.

"I have never liked Louis de Wohl - he strikes me as a charlatan and an imposter," reads the first line in the astrologer's file. The letter is typical and appeared to be signed by Dick White, who went on to become the head of Britain's domestic spy agency, MI5, in the 1950s.

That view didn't keep de Wohl from winning a temporary rank as a British army captain. He was sent by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who did not believe in astrology, to the U.S.

to persuade Americans that the Nazis would lose within months if they entered the war.

When de Wohl's services were no longer needed, intelligence agents puzzled over how to get rid of the man who called himself Britain's state seer, the declassified documents show.

De Wohl was born in Berlin in 1903 and fled to Britain in 1935 to avoid Nazi persecution for being part Jewish. His wife, Alexandra, fled to Santiago, Chile, where she claimed to be a Romanian princess and was known as "La Baronessa."

In London, de Wohl claimed variously to be a Hungarian nobleman, the nephew of an Austrian conductor, the grandson of a British banking magnate and a relative of the Lord Mayor of London. His break came, he wrote in a later book, during a dinner at the Spanish Embassy, when a Spanish duchess asked de Wohl to reveal Hitler's horoscope to Britain's foreign secretary, Lord Halifax.



# Campus Life

## Balancing academic tradition, skills employers demand

By VALERIE STRAUSS  
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While designing a new core curriculum at Virginia Commonwealth University to help graduates thrive in the 21st century, Vice Provost Joseph Marolla seized on an old standard to ensure its success: teaching students to write better.

This school year, all freshmen at Virginia's largest university began taking a two-semester course called Focused Inquiry that replaces English 101 and targets specific skills, writing chief among them.

The same thinking was behind a shake-up at the 50,000-student University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where an initiative was launched this school year, and a new department created, to make writing an essential element of every student's education.

The push to improve writing is taking hold at many colleges and universities amid a national debate about what higher education in 21st century should look like in the face of government projections that nearly two-thirds of all high-growth, high-wage jobs created in the next decade will require a college degree — a degree only one-third of adults have.

The curriculum debate started at least 200 years ago when Thomas Jefferson grew tired of trying to change the curriculum of the College of William and Mary and founded the University of Virginia to launch the "liberal arts." It is being played out at schools that are revamping curriculum to meet the demands of business leaders who want workers better trained in problem solving and collaboration and academics dedicated to a broad, intellectually rich education.

"We don't want college to be a trade school," Marolla said. "Everybody understands that. But as we've moved into the 21st century, we know that college kids have to have certain skills to be able to be successful over their lifetime."

Yet some worry about taking curriculum change too far.

"A college education is increasingly recognized as critical for career success," Cornell University President David J. Skorton said. "So much so, in fact, there is a real danger of thinking



Changing curriculum is a difficult task in higher education, where traditions are often entrenched and no academic department wants merely a bit part.

of higher education predominantly as a job training enterprise."

Changing curriculum is a difficult task in higher education, where traditions are often entrenched and no academic department wants merely a bit part. Harvard University, for example, approved a new general education curriculum last year for the first time in 30 years after a discussion that lasted at least four years.

Even at VCU, where institutional change is easier to accomplish because its traditions are not as enshrined, Marolla said he met resistance to designing curriculum around skill areas instead of the traditional content areas. It took him two years to convince his colleagues that the curriculum change should revolve around six skill areas—communication, critical thinking, information fluency, collaborative work, ethical and civic responsibility, and quantitative literacy.

"Academics say, 'No, no, no, I don't work with skills. Competencies, maybe, but not skills. It's not

what I do,'" he said.

But whatever it is called, writing is in demand. "The number one thing everyone says is that people have to be able to write," he said.

Complaints about student writing are not new, but they are growing louder. College professors are surprised at the lack of writing ability that students display. At the same time, employers are screaming for workers who are better trained in problem solving, collaboration and communication.

"We had a lot of comments from employers who said new graduates, because of the effect of e-mail and other digital technologies like instant messaging, have adopted an informal style that's not always appropriate for workplace communications," said Laura Gurak, chairman of the University of Minnesota's new department of writing studies and co-chairman of the task force that recommended the writing initiative.

Workplace concerns helped drive creation of the curriculum at Harrisburg

### Views on required courses

By VALERIE STRAUSS  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

What courses should be required for every U.S. college student? Everyone has a different idea of what students need to know to be competitive in the 21st century.

#### MARGARET SPELLINGS

U.S. secretary of education

American History, so that students have an appreciation for the events that made our great democracy what it is today, and a rigorous writing class to ensure they can effectively convey ideas, thoughts and concepts.

#### DAVID J. SKORTON

President, Cornell University

I believe a college student should

take substantial course work in the disciplines that will develop critical thinking, expression, communication (including critical reading skills) and learning how to learn over a lifetime. Specifically, I would encourage them to include in their curriculum humanities courses in philosophy (ethics, logic, history of philosophy), foreign language, history, literature, music or the visual arts. A second consideration would include courses in the social sciences, where broad critical thinking and the use of data can be learned and perfected.

#### DONNA E. SHALALA

President, University of Miami

English composition—after I turned

in my first paper, my superb teacher told me I would never get through college if I didn't know how to write. She taught me, and that course had a huge impact on my life.

My history courses—because they gave me a context that allowed me to understand the world, and the tools with which to understand the impact of events on human societies.

Technology is critical to teaching in the 21st century, as well as to learning. There will have to be a revolution in teaching methods to best help students acquire knowledge. In addition to a focus on global competencies, there should be renewed emphasis on learning languages—any languages, but critical languages in particular. Scientific literacy also will be a crucial skill.

### Dud courses

By VALERIE STRAUSS  
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

The decades come and go, but some things on college campuses never change—certainly not complaints about classes.

In the November 1944 edition of the Journal of Higher Education, Richard Stephen Uhrbrock discusses the attitudes of 60 graduates toward their colleges' curricula in an article titled "College Courses in Retrospect." Twenty-six schools are represented, including Cornell, Columbia and Princeton universities; Yale University had the most respondents, 11.

Here is what some graduates, all of whom were unnamed, said about courses they disliked:

■ Anthropology was "a complete waste of time. ... I think it would have been a good course back in 1890. By the time 1935 came around, it was a little old and out of date."

■ Analytic geometry "was a puzzle if there ever was one. Sometimes you had to work hours to get answers to problems."

■ Principles of teaching "appeared to me to be too simple. The things that they discussed in class always grated on my nerves as being something that a second grader should have understood."

■ Economics "became very dry and dull. You learned it by rote and you passed the examination and that was that."

■ Social science was taught by a professor who "was very disgusted with college students."

■ Trigonometry and simple calculus were "just plain drudgery for me."

■ Journalism "was about the most worthless thing I ever had."

elite universities.

"If our democracy is going to thrive, we have to have a literate population, and to me, creating a literate population is our job," Marolla said.

### Highest-Enrolled Courses

Here are the top 10 postsecondary courses completed by bachelor's degree recipients who graduated from high school in 1972, 1982 and 1992.

Class of 1972	Class of 1982	Class of 1992
English composition	English composition	English composition
General biology	Introduction to economics	General psychology
General psychology	Calculus	Calculus
General chemistry	General chemistry	General chemistry
Calculus	General psychology	General biology
Introduction to economics	Introduction to accounting	Spanish; introductory, intermediate
U.S. history surveys	General biology	Introduction to economics
General physics	Advanced accounting	U.S. history surveys
Music performance	General physics	World/Western civilization
Introduction to sociology	U.S. history surveys	Introduction to sociology

SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics



# Life & Style

## Meet the world's ultimate cheapskate

By DAN ZAK  
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WASHINGTON—The burgeoning cheap-pride movement began on a back road in Accokeek, Md., with a goof named Jeff Yeager, who retired from Washington nonprofit work several years ago and answered the cosmic calling to be the patron saint of thrift.

In short order, he found himself on the "Today" show as a correspondent on issues of frugality, began writing about penny-pinching techniques online ([www.ultimatecheapskate.com](http://www.ultimatecheapskate.com)) and eventually snagged a book deal with Random House's Broadway Books. He recently finished the second leg of his book tour (by bicycle) for "The Ultimate Cheapskate's Road Map to True Riches: A Practical (and Fun) Guide to Enjoying Life More by Spending Less" (\$13), which was released in December.

"Yes, we are cheap, but we are also generous, kind and happy!" goes the mantra of the cheap-pride movement, as Yeager, 49, details in the book. "We refuse to spend our whole lives making money we really don't need to make or spend in order to enjoy life!"

Now, Yeager's pulpit is mobile. Throughout his "Tour de Cheapskate," the Washington region's cheapest man cycled through South Florida, crashing on the couches of fellow followers of the frugal life and donating his book-tour per diem to public libraries. We talked to him about the practical applications of his miserly evangel.

**Q. What is a good first step toward wresting oneself from the claws of the dollar?**

A. I think this idea of a "fiscal fast," of swearing off the use of



THE WASHINGTON POST

"Yes, we are cheap, but we are also generous, kind and happy!" say Jeff Yeager, of Accokeek, Md., and other advocates of the cheap-pride movement. His "The Ultimate Cheapskate's Road Map to True Riches" was released in December.

money for some period of time, is incredibly valuable. It's an original idea. I've done this throughout my entire adult life. Try to go at least a week without spending money. If you have a family, everybody ought to be part of the action. Try to do it for all kinds of expenses: food, entertainment, clothing and, ideally, transportation. The great thing about a fiscal fast is it introduces you to what I'm preaching here. It's only a week out of your life.

**Q. What about young people who are living paycheck to paycheck and may have student loans?**

A. Even though it's written from my perspective—a mid-

dle-aged guy who's done well for himself—I think maybe the advice I offer in the book is most valuable to young people. The payoff is just exponential if you take that advice in your 20s or 30s. Like housing: Consider the novel idea of finishing in your starter home. Buy a house you like when you're relatively young, pay it off as soon as possible and skip this senseless upgrading to bigger, better housing. ...

I don't ever want to be too preachy, but I do think, with each generation, people's expectations about what they really want and need have spiraled upward. I'm not convinced that the cost of living has increased out-

Tesser realized that the woman had unintentionally given him a window into a touchy issue: how close friends and intimate partners who are engaged in similar work or activities compare themselves with one other.

The question led Tesser to experiments that have broad significance, because many people form friendships at work and at school, and this leads inevitably to becoming close to others with the same interests and avocations.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) is just one high-profile example of a person who constantly endures comparisons with her spouse's outsize achievements in the same field.

"When people who are close to us do well, you get both responses. You get the response 'My sister got the boy, again,' or 'My brother made the team and I didn't—again!'" said Tesser, professor emeritus at the University of Georgia at Athens. "At the same time, you are also basking in reflected glory: 'There is my cousin who is the first violinist in the symphony,' or 'There is my son, the doctor!'"

What makes the phenomenon interesting is that the conflict arises only if the star is both close to you and claims excellence in the same domain in which you wish to be seen as outstanding. If

## Intimate rivalries: A mixture of pride and envy

By SHANKAR VEDANTAM  
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The young woman had done well in a recent exam, but was feeling awful because she had just found out that a close friend had done even better. When she confided in social psychologist Abraham Tesser, he immediately recognized that the woman was standing at the fault line of two emotions that each say something interesting about human nature.

When someone we know or love excels at something, we take pride in her accomplishment because we care about the other person and get to bask in some of her reflected glory. But when we are involved in the same activity as that friend or intimate partner—and feel bested by that person—we can simultaneously feel envious and threatened, in a way we would not if the star performer were a stranger.

## 6 Golden Rules for ruling your gold

**1** Live within your means at 30, and stay there. Establish a permanent standard of living while you're young, cap your spending and, even as your salary increases, bank the rest.

**2** Never underestimate the power of NOT spending. A penny saved is equal to 1.3 to 2 cents earned, when you factor in taxes you're likely to incur on an earned penny. (Can you eventually do something with your savings? Sure, Yeager says. The point is to create a cushion to allow you to live well and provide for yourself without spending extra time and effort accumulating more.)

**3** Discretion is the better part of shopping. If you want to buy something, procrastinate instead of leaping to get it; you may change your mind. Try buying things with cash for a month, and note how your spending drops.

**4** Do for yourself what you could have others do for you. For example, instead of hiring a cleaning service, set aside an hour to tidy your home yourself.

**5** Anyone can negotiate anything. Regardless of the situation, never be the first to name a price. Always bargain with a keen sense of kindness; it may be more difficult for someone to hornswoggle you if you establish a rapport.

**6** Pinch the dollars, and the pennies will pinch themselves. Giving up the daily Starbucks habit is good but not a panacea. Think bigger. Do you really want a dog (a mid-size one costs \$780 per year, according to the ASPCA)? Do you really need a large apartment with large rent?

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side the range of inflation since the '80s. What has changed is people's expectations about what they need and want.

**Q. In one chapter, you go to St. Mary's County, Md., and chat up the Amish. How do they inform the cheapskate mentality?**

A. The Amish realized hundreds of years ago that, gosh, you need a little critical judgment here: Just because something exists doesn't mean you need to inject it into your life. Particularly with tech spending, Americans are of this mind-set of "I'm going to get a flat-screen TV and an iPod; maybe I can't afford it with this paycheck, but I'm definitely going to get it."

It's about two things: the impact that mentality has on your finances—it's led us to have a negative savings rate for the first time since the Depression—and the impact that approach has on your non-financial life—you're chasing after something you can never get enough of, and it's not making us any happier.

**Q. Tell me about the "money step," which is the bedrock concept of the book and an antithesis to the "Spend! Spend! Spend!" mantra of consumer culture.**

A. It's the notion that throughout our lives everything we think we want seems to involve this subconscious exercise of earning money to spend money to get what we want. We want good health, so we think that means buying a gym membership. (We need to ask ourselves), "Do we always need to go through that step?"

**Q. The dollar is worth less and a recession seems imminent, so frugality is starting to seem attractive.**

A. Cheap, as I define it, may be the new cool. ... It certainly has real ramifications for the green movement. Green is so hot right now. I don't understand how you can—if you're an American—embrace the green movement and not admit to yourself that it means

you must consume less in your own life.

**Q. You ever bump up against people who disagree with you?**

A. The one that cracks me up is how quite a number of people say, "For God's sake, it would be the end of our economy"—that if everyone believes as Jeff does, the economy goes down the tubes. Give me a break. I'm one guy out in Accokeek with one little book weighing in against the 3,000 commercial messages we get every day saying, "Buy some more stuff. Spend some more money." I'm one guy with one book. I hardly think I'm going to topple the economy.

That said, if this cheapskate lifestyle catches on—maybe if that slows down the economy—I don't think that's a bad thing. The current U.S. economy is both unsustainable to the environment and unfair to other people on the Earth. But here's the good news: It's also unnecessary in the end. It's unnecessary to our happiness.

the young woman who confided in Tesser had not been outshone by a friend, she would not have felt threatened. And if the friend had not excelled in the same exam that the woman considered important, again there would have been no conflict.

"People are happiest when they feel they are doing about as well as their spouse," said Penelope Lockwood, a social psychologist at the University of Toronto who has extended Tesser's research. "It is more of a problem when you feel you are in the same league as your partner but are not achieving what your partner has achieved."

Many couples and friends tell researchers they feel no envy or resentment toward a partner who does well, but controlled experiments show otherwise. In one, Tesser and his colleagues videotaped people as they were told that someone close to them had outperformed them. The volunteers said they were delighted, but impartial analysis of the video revealed that their expressions of pride were leavened with dismay.

In another experiment, Tesser and his colleagues brought groups of four people into a lab, with each group consisting of two pairs of friends. The volunteers were asked to play a word game, where three of them in turn gave clues to

the fourth. When people were told that the game revealed how intelligent they were, and they then did badly, they tended to undermine the friend by giving her difficult clues in the next round. But they gave easy clues to strangers.

When the players were led to believe the game was trivial, however, they were more likely to give easy clues to their friends; the game was unimportant, so it did not matter if the friend outperformed them.

In a third study, Tesser had participants compete in a quiz. They did not know that their competitor was really a research assistant who had memorized all the answers. The volunteers inevitably lost, of course, but some were told that the quiz was an important test of intelligence; others were told the quiz was just a meaningless game.

When Tesser later asked the defeated volunteers to take a seat in a room where the research assistant was already seated, Tesser found that people who were told the game was important seated themselves farther away from the "clever" competitor than did those who thought the game was trivial.

We want to be close to people who are stars, in other words—just as long as they excel in something that is not important to us.



## Celebrated tenor Di Stefano dies at 86

**ROME (AP)**—Giuseppe Di Stefano, one of the greatest tenors of the 20th century and a celebrated singing partner of soprano Maria Callas, died Monday, his wife said. He was 86.

Di Stefano died at home in Santa Maria Hoe, north of Milan, from injuries sustained in a November 2004 attack at his family's villa in Kenya, said his wife, Monika Curth.

Unidentified assailants struck the retired tenor on the head during the attack. Di Stefano underwent surgery twice in Mombasa before being flown to Milan. He awakened from a coma, but never fully recovered.

"He was 100 percent disabled, he couldn't even eat alone," Curth told The Associated Press by telephone. "Lately he frequently had colds and pneumonia."

Di Stefano, born in Sicily in 1921, made his debut in 1946 in the northern city of Reggio Emilia with Massenet's "Manon," and went on to sing at the world's top opera houses, including Milan's La Scala, New York's Metropolitan, and in Vienna and Berlin.

His last performance was in Rome in 1992.

Known for his powerful voice, Di Stefano also is remembered for his duets with Callas, who performed and recorded with him several times in the 1950s through her final tour in 1973.

Di Stefano was at the height of his career when other stars of contemporary opera were taking their first steps. Luciano Pavarotti, who died in September, had his big international break when he stood in for Di Stefano as Rodolfo in Puccini's "La Boheme" at London's Covent Garden in 1963.

At the Metropolitan Opera, Di Stefano sang in 112 performances from 1948 to 1965, making his debut in Verdi's "Rigoletto" as the Duke.

"His musical merits have mostly to do with style, for the voice, though neither small nor ugly, is not an organ of great beauty," composer Virgil Thomson wrote in The New York Herald Tribune after that first performance. "But he has an impeccable enunciation, and he projects a phrase with style and authority. Also his personality is fresh and genuine."

On Monday, Italy and the world of opera celebrated him as one of the greats.

"Let us remember his great talent and his fascinating interpretations, which brought to stages across the world the feelings and emotions of our best musical tradition," Italian President Giorgio Napolitano said in a message to Curth.

"Another great of the 'Scala family' enters into the history of opera, into its myth," said a statement from the storied Milan opera house, where Di Stefano sang 185 times. "He enjoyed a long, passionate run, full of friends and memorable events."

Marcello Giordani, a top Sicilian tenor currently rehearsing "Ernani" at the Met, said he was "deeply saddened" by Di Stefano's death.

"As a child growing up in Catania, I was greatly inspired by his magnificent voice, musicality, and dramatic sensibilities," Giordani said. "His passing is a tremendous loss to the world of opera, and most especially to the people of Sicily."

Di Stefano will be buried in Santa Maria Hoe after a church funeral Wednesday, his wife said.

# Strip club: 'Idol' once danced here

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—“American Idol” contestant David Hernandez once entertained audiences by removing his clothes instead of singing tunes, a manager at a male strip club in Phoenix told The Associated Press.

The 24-year-old finalist from Glendale, Ariz., once worked as a stripper at Dick's Cabaret, appearing fully nude and performing lap dances for the club's "mostly male" clientele, club manager Gordy Bryan said Monday.

"He had the look and the type that people like, so he made pretty good money here," Bryan said.

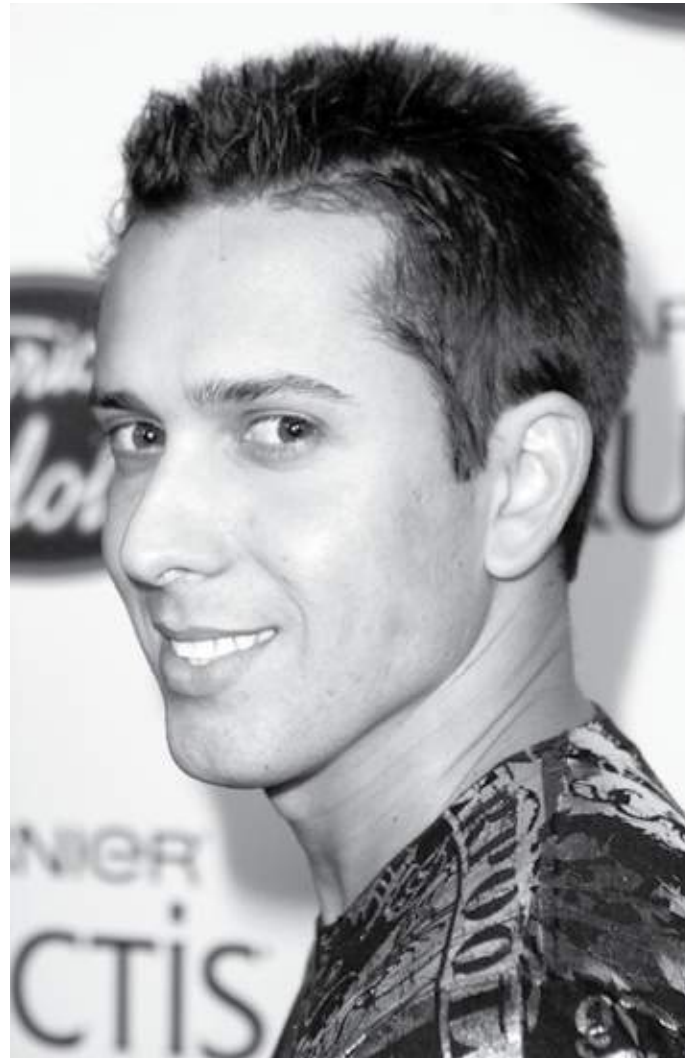
It's not clear whether a history as a stripper could disqualify Hernandez from the competition. In 2003, finalist Frenchie Davis was dismissed because of her appearance on an adult Web site; but last year, Antonella Barba remained in the competition after racy photos of her surfaced on the Internet.

Fox spokeswoman Jill Hudson did not immediately return telephone calls seeking comment Monday.

According to Bryan, Hernandez steadily worked at the club for three years until September 30, 2007.

"He never renewed his licensing with the state, so he hasn't been on my roster since then," Bryan said.

Bryan said he was aware



American Idol Season 7's Top 24 contestant David Hernandez poses at a party in their honor, in this Feb. 14, 2008 file photo in Los Angeles.

that Hernandez was a vocalist, but that Hernandez never sang at the club. Bryan said he now believes Hernandez stopped

working at the club because of his participation in "American Idol." Hernandez has never been referred to as a stripper or

former stripper during the Fox singing competition.

Rumors of a stripper past—along with photos of a scantily clad Hernandez working as a bartender at gay nightclub Burn—were first posted last week on VoteForTheWorst.com, a site that encourages "Idol" viewers to vote for "the bad and truly entertaining contestants."

"It was like moths to a flame," said VoteForTheWorst.com founder Dave Della Terza. "As soon as I posted that, we started getting 10, 20 letters every single day from people saying, 'Yeah, he's a stripper in Phoenix.'"

Terza and other members of VoteForTheWorst.com community scoured MySpace, Photobucket and other social networking and photo sharing sites to find information and images of Hernandez. Terza said he contacted the club to confirm the Internet chatter, but they never got back to him.

"They said they couldn't give me a statement before talking to their lawyers," said Terza.

Hernandez, who originally auditioned for "Idol" in San Diego on July 30, 2007, is in the Fox singing competition's top 16 contestants. Last week, he earned rave reviews from the judges after his performance of The Temptations' "Papa Was a Rolling Stone." He is scheduled to perform with the other male contestants on Tuesday's show.

## Spacecraft photographs Mars avalanche

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)**—A robotic spacecraft circling Mars has snapped the first image of a series of active avalanches near the planet's north pole, scientists said Monday.

The image, taken last month, reveals at least four avalanches of fine ice and dust breaking off from a steep cliff and settling

on the slope below. The cascade kicked up massive debris clouds, with some measuring more than 590 feet across.

The landslides were spied by the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter during a routine tracking of seasonal changes. The probe arrived at the planet in 2006.

It is rare for scientists to catch

a natural event in action on the surface of Mars. Most of the landscape that has been recorded so far has not changed much in millions of years.

The avalanches occurred near the north pole and broke part of a 2,300-foot cliff.

"We were checking for springtime changes in the

carbon-dioxide frost covering a dune field and finding the avalanches was completely serendipitous," Jet Propulsion Laboratory scientist Candice Hansen said in a statement.

Scientists were unsure what set off the avalanches and whether they occur frequently or only during the spring.

## Modern J.S. Bach bust displayed in Berlin

**BERLIN (AP)**—A modern reconstruction of Johann Sebastian Bach's head—using computer modeling techniques—shows the composer as a strong-jawed man with a slight underbite, his large head topped with short, silver hair.

The bust, unveiled in Berlin on Monday, was created by anthropologist Caroline Wilkinson in her lab at the University of Dundee in Scotland.

Rather than use Bach's actual bones, which are buried at the St. John's Church in Leipzig, Germany, Wilkinson worked from a copper replica of Bach's skull made for a previous reconstruction in 1894 by physician Wilhelm His and sculptor Carl Ludwig Seffner.

Nonetheless, Wilkinson sees her work as the most realistic rendering of Bach's appearance to date.

"The science has improved

over the last 100 years," she said. "We have a better understanding of the relation between hard and soft tissue."

The project was commissioned by the Bach House museum in the central German city of Eisenach as the centerpiece of a new exhibition: "Bach Through the Mirror of Medicine."

Bach's appearance has long been surrounded by mystery. Images of the prolific composer are plentiful—the Bach House alone has 140 likenesses—but he is only known to have sat for one portrait, museum director Joerg Hansen said.

"Iconography is a major concern of our museum," Hansen said. "Of course, we have a large collection of his music, but people also want to know what he looked like."

Because of the lack of material with which to work, even Wilkinson acknowledges that

some aspects of the re-creation involved guess work.

"There's no way to know on the basis of his skull what his skin tone would have been," she said. "But that's also something that would have changed with the temperature or the state of his emotions."

She also cautions that her reconstruction is not meant to provide any insight into Bach's musical genius. "It only shows his facial appearance," she said. "I wish it could give us some sense of what was going on inside of his head, but it can't."

The bust will be on display at Berlin's Charite medical school for a short time before being moved to Eisenach for the show opening March 21 to mark the composer's birthday.

Bach was born in Eisenach in 1685 and died in Leipzig in 1750. He is only known to have visited Berlin once, Hansen said.



The computer-modeled forensic facial reconstruction of German composer Johann Sebastian Bach, who lived from 1685-1750, is on display during a news conference in Berlin, Germany, Monday, March 3, 2008. At left is Caroline Wilkinson of the university of Dundee, Scotland, who created the reconstruction, at right is Joerg Hansen, director of the Bach museum.





AP

Steve-O and guest arrive at the MTV Video Music Awards at the Palms Hotel and Casino in this Sept. 9, 2007, file photo in Las Vegas.

## Jackass' star Steve-O arrested

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Steve-O of "Jackass" fame was arrested for investigation of vandalism and possession of a controlled substance at his Hollywood home. Police arrested the 33-year-old co-star of MTV's prank-filled program at 5 a.m. Monday after a neighbor made a citizen's arrest following a dispute over a fence, Los Angeles police Officer Ana Aguirre said.

Steve-O, born Stephen Glover, was booked at a Hollywood police station on suspicion of vandalism and an outstanding traffic warrant, Aguirre said. He was also booked for investigation of possessing a controlled substance for allegedly having a small quantity of drugs on him, Aguirre said.

Aguirre did not provide further details.

Messages left for Glover's manager, Ben Feigin, were not immediately returned.

## 'American Idol' brings back charity show

NEW YORK (AP)—The second "American Idol" charity event is set for April 9, with a lineup that includes Bono, Brad Pitt, Miley Cyrus, Fergie, Chris Daughtry and Carrie Underwood.

Last year's "Idol Gives Back" show raised \$76 million to benefit underprivileged children.

The Fox network announced the date Monday. Football stars Peyton and Eli Manning are also scheduled, along with John Legend, Mariah Carey, Annie Lennox, Reese Witherspoon and Snoop Dogg. Fox said more names will be added in the coming weeks.

# Kid Rock pleads not guilty to battery

ATLANTA (AP)—Kid Rock has pleaded not guilty to a charge of battery from a fight at a Waffle House in Atlanta. Robert James Ritchie, better known as the musician Kid Rock, was not present for the plea. His attorney, Darryl Cohen, waived an arraignment hearing and entered the plea on Ritchie's behalf in DeKalb County State Court, according to Cohen's office.

Ritchie and five members of his entourage were arrested October 21st on a misdemeanor charge of simple battery. The charges stem from a fight at a metro-Atlanta Waffle House, where they had stopped following his performance at The Tabernacle.

Officials say a fight broke out after another customer recognized a woman in Kid Rock's party and exchanged words with her, prompting Ritchie to exchange words, too.

Kid Rock arrives at Warner Music Group post-Grammy party in this, Feb. 10, 2008, file photo, in Los Angeles.



## Bai Ling charged with petty theft



AP

This image provided by the Los Angeles Police Department Airport Division shows a police booking photograph of Chinese actress Bai Ling, 37, in this Feb. 14, 2008, file photo.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chinese actress Bai Ling was charged Monday with petty theft and accused of shoplifting a pack of batteries and two Star magazines at Los Angeles International Airport.

Bai tried to take \$16.22 worth of items, said city attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan. She faces a \$250 fine. Her arraignment was scheduled for Wednesday, when Ling could contest the misdemeanor infraction or pay the fine, Mateljan said.

An e-mail message sent to Bai's agent was not immediately returned.

Bai, who has appeared in such films as "The Crow" and "Anna and the King," was arrested Feb. 13 after she was detained by a store employee who summoned police.

She later told E! News that she was having an "emotionally crazy" day because she and her boyfriend broke up right before Valentine's Day.

She recently posted a message on her blog that she is shooting a film in Albuquerque.

"Shooting and living in a movie is magic, only wish that my love is here with me," she wrote.

## Clinton campaigns on Stewart's show

NEW YORK (AP)—With late-night comedy appearances seeming to work for her in the days before crucial primaries in Ohio and Texas, Hillary Clinton sought votes Monday by matching wits with Jon Stewart on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show."

Clinton was interviewed via satellite at a campaign stop in Austin, Texas.

"This election is about judgment," Stewart said to her. "Yet tomorrow is perhaps one of the most important days of your life and you've chosen to spend the

night before talking to me. Senator, as a host I'm delighted. As a citizen, I'm frightened."

Responded Clinton: "It is pretty pathetic."

A different late-night show, NBC's "Saturday Night Live," seems to have boosted Clinton in the past two weeks. A Feb. 23 skit mocked journalists for going easy on Barack Obama and tough on Clinton. After she cited the skit in a real debate last week, it led many real reporters to examine whether or not there was some truth behind the comedy.

Another skit this past Saturday followed the same theme, and Clinton herself made an appearance.

To Stewart, Clinton said the vigorous campaign was good for Democrats and the country. She suggested it wasn't going to end soon, either.

"There's a lot of interest in letting the people who are still to come have their voices included in the process since it's so close," she said. "We'll see what happens tomorrow, but I'm feeling very optimistic and excited about Ohio and Texas."

## Active fantasy life does not mean you are cheating

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My co-workers and I have been talking, and we disagree on this. Is fantasizing about someone other than your partner cheating? I say no. What do you think?

—"BEAUTIFUL DREAMER," BRIDGETON, MO.



DEAR "BEAUTIFUL DREAMER": It is not unusual for people in the throes of passion—or even walking down the street—to take a fantasy side trip. It's not cheating and can enhance the experience.

However, for you and your co-workers to discuss sex at the office IS being "unfaithful"—to your boss!

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: After 10 years of marriage, I have come to a realization. I am a terrible housekeeper! I have tried learning to clean better, using new techniques or different equipment. My husband has begged, bribed and fought with me over picking up my stuff. We have a good relationship, though, and this is one of the only conflicts between us.

We by no means live in squalor, but our house is usually messy. Frankly, I'm not interested in housecleaning. I'm not lazy. I'm busy with two kids, volunteering at two different schools, preparing healthy meals, engaging in endless play, make-believe and kiddie craft projects.

My mom and grandmother were also somewhat laissez-faire about housekeeping. Their motto was always, "Happy children are more important than a clean house."

There are so many more interesting and important things to do; I get little satisfaction from housekeeping. Cleanliness is short-lived around here, anyway. I believe there are more messy homes out there than people admit. A little clutter never hurt anyone.

This problem is not family-threatening, but I would like your opinion on it.

—GOOD MOM IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.

DEAR GOOD MOM: You asked for it—and here it is. I agree that there are probably more messy homes out there than people admit. However, there is a difference between "clutter" and "not clean."

Your kitchen and bathrooms should be kept clean to safeguard the health of your children and spouse. If the problem is clothing in your bedroom that you have tossed all over, allow me to remind you that it takes only a moment to toss an item into the clothes hamper, hang it up or return it, folded, to the drawer from which you took it.

While I agree that "happy children are more important than a clean house," the two are not mutually exclusive. A disorganized house can also be a sign of a disorganized mind. You're setting a poor example for your children, who will grow up thinking this is acceptable—just as you did. You should be teaching them to do their part, too.

P.S. Has it occurred to you to hire a housekeeper to come once or twice a month?

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband reads the newspaper at the dinner table almost every night in front of the children. He says it's the only time he has to read the paper.

Is it rude to read at the dinner table when there are four other people sitting there?

—INQUIRING MIND IN GEORGIA

DEAR INQUIRING MIND: It's not only rude, it's poor parenting. You're doing your part by having dinner on the table, but your husband is shirking his duty as a dad. The dinner hour is the ideal time for family conversation, for him to learn about what's going on in the children's lives and to discuss current events—providing they are old enough. It is also a time for parents to "model" the kind of manners they want to pass on to their kids.

I don't know what your husband is doing AFTER dinner, but that would be the optimum time for him to catch up on the news rather than hiding from all of you.

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



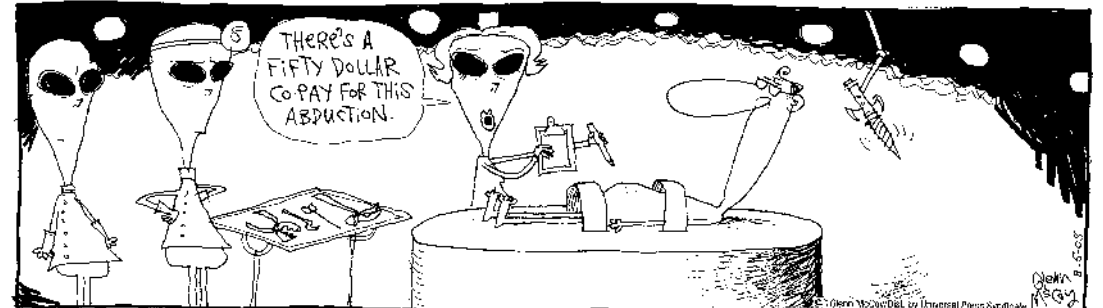
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Quiche recipe necessity  
5 "Mayday!"  
8 Winged  
12 Sheltered  
13 Handle clumsily  
14 California wine area  
15 Ponder  
17 Portent  
18 Textbook chapter  
19 Nero, legend has it  
21 Slander  
22 Slender  
23 Opposite of 26-Across  
26 Opposite of 23-Across  
28 Use the rink  
31 Comes-tibles  
33 LXX divided by V  
35 Go no farther  
36 Ex-pressed angrily  
38 "We are — amused"

**DOWN**

1 Count  
2 Collag-ist's need  
3 Jewels  
4 Tremor  
5 Stretchy fabric  
6 Feedbag tidbit  
7 Bulge  
8 Parkas  
9 Coat with plastic, e.g.  
10 Tarzan's coterie  
11 Carry on  
16 It may be a proper subject  
20 "Undeni-ably"  
23 Vacation-ing  
24 Costello or Piniella  
25 Hold sway over  
27 Victory  
29 Spotted, in  
30 Storm  
32 Made into fillets  
34 Library array  
37 Party bowlful  
39 Poly-nesian carving  
42 Simul-taneity  
44 Choreog-raphy  
45 Minimal change  
46 Loton additive  
48 Put into words  
49 Singer James  
50 Possibly be  
53 Chic no more

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

T	H	O	R	O	F	F	C	A	R	D
Y	O	G	A	R	O	E	O	R	E	O
P	O	R	T	A	B	L	E	N	E	E
E	K	E	B	I	D	P	S	A	L	M
M	O	W	E	D	N	A	V	A	J	O
P	R	I	G	M	U	G	B	E	E	P
G	A	Z	E	B	O	S	U	L	T	R
A	S	S	A	I	O	B	I	A	F	T
C	H	U	B	S	U	I	T	A	B	L
H	E	A	L	E	A	R	T	S	E	E
E	E	A	S	E	M	S	S	T	E	P

**Yesterday's answer 3-5**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Jake Lloyd, 19; Kevin Connolly, 34; John Frusciante, 38; Samantha Eggar, 69

**Happy Birthday:** It's important for you not to carry baggage into the future. A strong sense of justice and fair play will help you make the right decisions. Consider what long term adjustments need to be made in your personal life. Buying, selling and making moves that will help you out financially should be your intent. Your numbers are 16, 22, 27, 31, 43, 46

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't turn down any help that's offered because valuable solutions can be found. A chance to experience unique surroundings will bring to view what's available and how you can make things work to your advantage. You don't have to go big in order to be successful. \*\*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Steer clear of anyone asking you for something. Chances are good that you will be taken advantage of if you give in to demands or pushy people. Once you make it clear what you want to do, hangers-on and meddlers will back off. \*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Don't sit back when there is so much happening. Be ready to take advantage of what's being offered. Prepare to use your Gemini charm to persuade others that you have skills that are in demand. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Don't take things for granted. Take the initiative and do what needs to be done and you will have no regrets. You are sitting in a much more powerful

position than you realize. A chance to make things right is looking you in the face. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You will have trouble deciding which way to go. A partnership may turn into a bit of a rollercoaster ride but, once it stops, you can renew the foundation of this connection. Choose what's best for you. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You can bring about reform and change by sharing your ideas with people capable of altering the outcome of things. An opportunity to show your superiority will put you in a prime position to advance and take over. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** It's what you do and the initiative you take that will impress people. Laziness will be your downfall and will stop you short of achieving your goals. Love is in the stars but, if you are slow to make your move, you may miss out. \*\*\*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Take your time and don't let anyone railroad you into making a decision you aren't ready to make. You have to gauge your time and try different alternatives before you can move forward comfortably. \*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't think someone else can do things better than you. Roll up your shirtsleeves and get things started. Don't waste time traveling or spending money on unnecessary expenditures. Instead, communicate by phone or Internet. \*\*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Focus on accomplishing what you set out to do. Don't be

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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sidetracked by what someone else is doing. In your case, steady, ready and conservative should be the course. Don't get angry at someone's lack of knowledge or vision. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Try to stay calm and don't let emotional matters stop you in your tracks. You'll have to reach out to someone who needs reassurance if you want to avoid tension or a possible argument. A little charm and an enticing proposal will turn matters around quickly. \*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Don't give anyone a chance to interfere or take over. Be precise and to the point about what you want or someone will misinterpret your intentions. Take advantage of anything being offered but not if something is expected in return. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are open-minded and eager to try new things. You are strong, compassionate and helpful. You are adaptable and hardworking.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4	8	2								
1			2				9			
9		3		6			5	2		
	1		2							
		4	3		1	8				
				9			7			
		1		8		2		3		
	6				5			9		
3						4	5	8		

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	7	9	2	6	5	4	3	1
3	6	1	8	4	9	7	2	5
4	2	5	3	7	1	8	6	9
6	5	2	1	8	3	9	7	4
7	9	3	4	5	6	2	1	8
1	8	4	7	9	2	6	5	3
9	1	8	5	2	7	3	4	6
2	3	6	9	1	4	5	8	7
5	4	7	6	3	8	1	9	2

Difficulty Level \*\*

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HARDWOOD FLOORING

Solution: 9 letters

S	F	L	E	G	A	T	N	I	V	E	N	E	E	R
A	M	L	P	L	D	I	E	S	U	O	H	N	S	M
K	I	A	A	R	A	O	O	V	N	G	I	S	E	D
S	N	Y	E	T	O	L	O	N	E	L	E	B	A	Y
K	E	I	N	S	I	T	A	W	T	N	U	H	N	W
R	S	I	R	D	N	R	E	U	K	I	C	I	N	E
A	A	W	R	H	R	O	O	C	L	A	H	C	I	C
M	N	A	I	O	S	A	I	D	T	S	O	K	N	N
O	D	L	W	D	O	H	D	T	O	S	C	O	S	A
I	E	N	A	T	T	M	A	N	A	O	T	R	T	G
S	D	U	E	A	D	H	S	P	A	V	W	Y	A	E
T	A	T	L	S	E	L	I	T	E	T	O	Y	L	L
U	R	S	R	E	I	N	I	L	P	S	S	N	L	E
R	G	R	A	I	N	N	A	T	U	R	A	L	E	P
E	V	O	O	R	G	E	T	A	R	O	C	E	D	R

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Attach, Build, Coating, Decorate, Design, Elegance, Even, Flat, Grade, Grain, Groove, Hickory, House, Installed, Lath, Layer, Mainain, Marks, Moisture, Narrow, Natural, Oakwood, Outline, Plywood, Protect, Renovations, Rooms, Sanded, Seams, Shape, Shiny, Shrink, Solid, Splinters, Standard, Style, Thickness, Tiles, Veneer, Vintage, Walnut, Wash, Width  
**Yesterday's Answer: Evaluating**  
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**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	<b>\$25</b>
• 5-Liner	<b>\$35</b>
• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$45</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$55</b>

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

<b>1st position</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>2nd position</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>Succeeding positions</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements in Saipan that include corresponding benefits and which positions are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

DanDan House for Lease/Rent: 2 story concrete house, walled and gated, unfurnished, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, walk-in closet, carport, outside shower, front porch, basement, large outside kitchen, gazebo, panoramic view of Laulau Bay, rooftop patio, & BBQ, private party area, safe, secure & private comfortable home. Call 288-5264 or 322-0268 view by appointment.

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water \$210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**1 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR (MW 0001)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Medical & workmen's compensation. Contact: Twin Star Gift Shop @484-0616.

**3 STOREKEEPER (MW 0002)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self arranged housing; self arranged food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: Martha's Retail Shop Inc. @234-9774.

**1 COMMERCIAL CLEANER (MW 0003)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide housing; self provide food; medical & workman's compensation

**SMALL ENGINE REPAIR  
LAUNDRY REPAIR**

- Lawn Mower • Generator Repair
- Boat Engine • Bush Cutter Repair
- Motor Bike • Rewinding

**233-5641**  
Open 7 Day a Week  
9:00 AM-9:00 PM

provided. Contact: LHD Corporation dba Tease @233-8838.

**4 SINGER (MW 0004)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: Ameriana Corporation dba Club Happiness @234-6913.

**4 WAITRESS/WAITER (MW 0005)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: Ameriana Corporation dba Club Happiness @234-6913.

**1 HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER (MW 0006)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide housing; self provide food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: Ameriana Corporation @234-6913.

**1 COMMERCIAL CLEANER (MW 0007)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self arrange housing; self provided food; employer provided workers compensation insurance & medical. Contact: Genpro International, Inc. @288-3820.

**3 COOK (MW 0008)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide housing; self provide food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: Emperor Enterprises Corp. dba Furusato Restaurant @233-3333.

**1 BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER (MW 0009)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide housing; self provide food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: Emperor Enterprises Corp. dba Furusato Restaurant @233-3333.

**1 GARDENER (MW 0010)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provide housing; self provide food; medical & workman's compensation provided. Contact: James/Penny Hofschneider @234-8040.

**2 SALES REPRESENTATIVE (MW 0011)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Workmen's compensation; bonding & medical (as per contract). Contact: Philpan International Corp. dba MC-Asia Int'l @235-6100/6695.

**1 CARPENTER (MW 0012)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Medical & workers compensation. Contact: Top Development Inc. @235-6072/5.

**1 AUTO PAINTER (MW 0013)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Medical & workers compensation. Contact: Top Development Inc. @235-6072/5.

**1 TOUR GUIDE (COORDINATOR) (MW 0014)**  
Salary:\$3.90/hour. Benefits: \$75.00/housing allowance; \$50.00/gas allowance; medical & workers compensation. Contact: Top Development Inc. @235-6072/5.

**1 DRIVER, TRACTOR, TRAILER, TRUCK (MW 0015)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Medical & workers compensation. Contact: Top Development Inc. @235-6072/5.

**1 OPERATION MANAGER (MW 0016)**  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Medical & workers compensation. Contact: Top Development Inc. @235-6072/5.

**1 BUILDING MAINTENANCE/REPAIRER (MW 0017)**  
Salary:\$5.00/hour. Benefits: Self provided housing; self provided food; medical & workmen's compensation employer provided. Contact: Gualo Rai Center, Inc. @234-6552.

**1 BAKER (MW 0018)**  
Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. **Duties:** Specializes in baking of pizzas. Must be familiar with proper temperatures and ingredients. Must be familiar with proper kitchen preparation & clean-ups. Must be familiar & knowledgeable in proper dough rising times for each specialized dough & related duties with the position of baker. Benefits: Company provided housing; self arranged food; workers compensation & medical provides. Annual vacation, after one year of continuous employment & transportation self provided. Contact: Pizza Hut of Saipan, Inc. dba Pizza Hut @235-9333.

**1 WAITER/WAITRESS (MW 0019)**  
Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. **Duties:** May assist in seating, setting-up & cleaning tables, answering questions to customers and other related duties assigned or required with the position of being a waiter. Benefits: Self arranged housing; self arranged

WHATZIT Solution:  
Left, right and center

food; self provided transportation; annual vacation after one (1) year of continuous employment, workers compensation & medical provided. Contact: Pizza Hut of Saipan, Inc. dba Pizza Hut @235-9333.

**3 SHIFT MANAGERS (MW 0020)**  
Salary:\$3.55-\$5.85/hour. **Duties:** Performs assigned supervisory duties to ensure effective unit operation, monitor and ensures FAST customer service, he/she interacts effectively with customers by following verbal customer complaint procedure should it be necessary. Monitors and ensures ingredients and products are prepared according to specifications while maintaining adequate inventory levels, while monitoring and ensuring restaurant cleanliness. Ensures adherence to cash control procedures. Complete and uses position sheet to make job assignments while directing the activities of all employees. Ensures compliance with all PIZZA HUT, INC. policies and procedures. Adequately staffs restaurant to meet projected sales. Is responsible for the smooth operation and efficient running of the restaurant during his/her shift. Benefits: Self arranged housing; self arranged food; self arranged transportation, workers compensation and medical provided, annual vacation after one year of continuous employment. Contact: Pizza Hut of Saipan, Inc. dba Pizza Hut @235-9333.

**3 (ASSISTANT) MANAGER REST. (MW 0021)**  
Salary:\$3.55-\$8.24/hour. Duties: Accountabilities:

- I. Manages Restaurant Environment
- A. Maintain positive customer relations.
1. Ensures prompt, friendly and courteous service.
2. Ability to make adjustments to meet projected sales
3. Directs activities to employees during peak revenue periods.
4. Handles verbal customer complaints (advise manager).

- B. Ensures quality products
1. Ensures products are made to Hawaii Pizza Hut, Inc. specifications.
2. Supervise correct amounts and quality of ingredients prep to meet protected sales.

- C. Maintains physical plant
1. Organizes work areas to ensure ease of operations.
2. Maintains restaurant cleanliness
3. Advise restaurant manager regarding nonroutine problems
4. Maintains opening/closing/shift change checklist

- D. In-restaurant marketing programs
1. Provides input for promotional ideas.
2. Maintain positive community relations
3. Maintains point of sales material

- II. Manages Employee Performance
- A. Recruits interview and select employees
1. Participates in new employee orientation
2. Participates and conducts group training sessions
3. Participate and conducts group training sessions.

**CHVA**  
Clean out your closet!  
It's a great opportunity to sell things you no longer need and find just what you are looking for!

**CHC VOLUNTEERS' GARAGE SALE**  
**Saturday, March 29, 2008**  
**Set up - 6:30am - 7:30am**  
**Sale - 8:00am - 3:00pm**  
**CHC Parking Area**

Tent spaces cost \$20 and are limited. Call Kim Prinz @ 287-2428 or email: kprinz@excite.com to reserve your space now!



**Marianas Maid Services**  
Are you overwhelmed at work?  
Has taking care of your kids and the housework become a burden?  
**LET US MAKE YOUR HOME OR OFFICE \*\*\* SPARKLE \*\*\***  
Cleaning services starting as low as \$30 per cleaning.  
All equipment and cleaning supplies provided.  
All our staff has been hand picked and are reliable.  
Ironing, Laundry, Window washing and many other services available upon request.  
Contact Julie at 287-6542 to schedule an appointment.

**WHATZIT?**  
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.  
**LEFT LEFT**

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Find today's solution in this section







# Pats re-sign Randy Moss to 3-year deal



**BOSTON (AP)—**Randy Moss is staying with the New England Patriots. The defending AFC champions re-signed the record-breaking receiver on Monday to a three-year deal worth \$27 million, his agent said. The signing was confirmed by the team shortly after Moss posted a message to fans on his Web site.

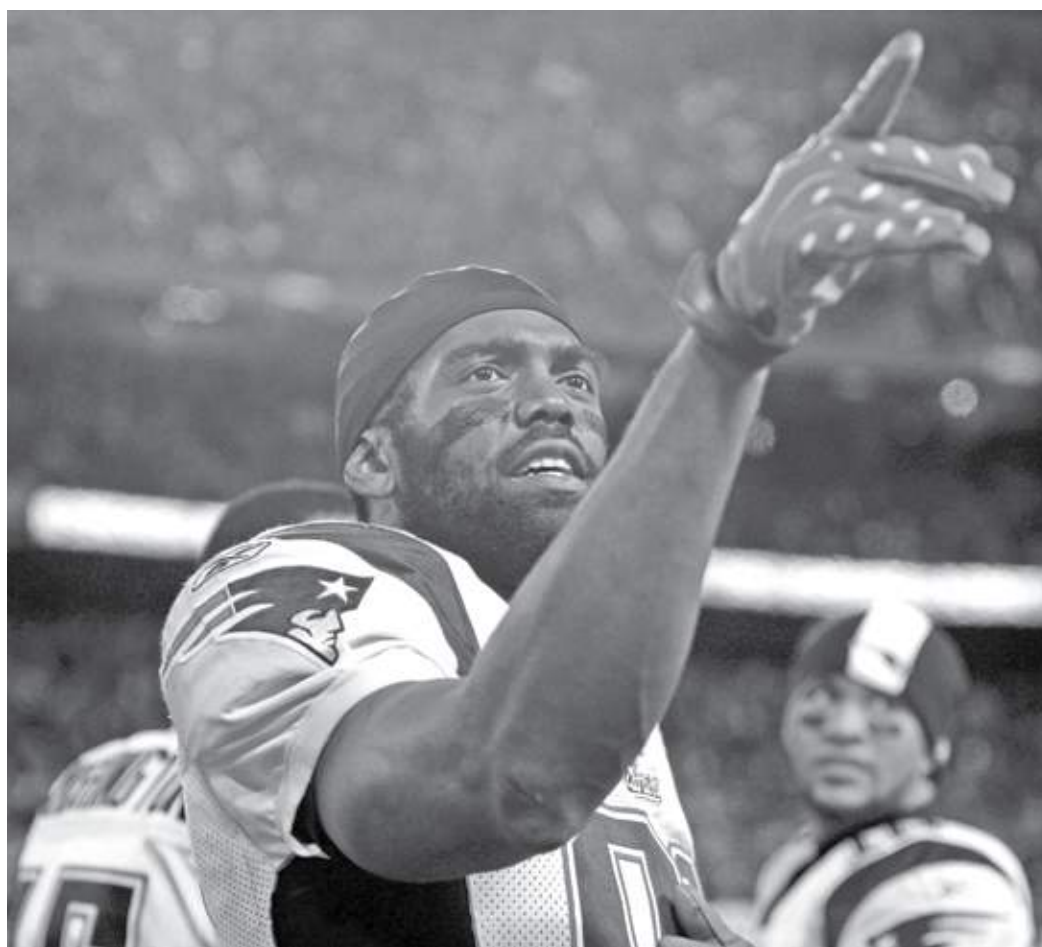
"I want to take time out to thank all of the fans for their support and for wishing me well in my return to New England," therealrandymoss.com quotes him as saying. "I'm ready to get back. We have some unfinished business to take care of."

Moss' agent, Tim DiPiero, said the deal included guarantees of \$15 million, including a \$12 million signing bonus to the receiver who set an NFL record with 23 touchdown catches and helped the Patriots reach the Super Bowl in his first season with the team.

"Randy was serious about wanting to stay," DiPiero wrote in an e-mail. "Because of Randy's record-breaking year, the interest in him was very high. Randy took less than he could have to rejoin his teammates."

Pairing Moss with NFL MVP Tom Brady, who broke the league record with 50 touchdown passes, the Patriots breezed through the regular season with a perfect 16-0 record. They improved to an unprecedented 18-0 before blowing a chance at the league's longest unbeaten season with a 17-14 Super Bowl loss to the New York Giants.

"What Randy did for our team last year was outstanding," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said in a statement. "He is one of our most consistent, competitive and team-oriented players and it is undoubtedly a relationship



New England Patriots wide receiver Randy Moss (81) during an NFL football game at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., in this Dec. 29, 2007 photo.

we are excited to continue."

Moss, 31, has caught 774 passes for 12,193 yards in a 10-year career, and his 124 career receiving touchdowns are fourth in NFL history.

A four-time All-Pro, Moss took a pay cut to get out of Oakland and come to New England last April in exchange for a fourth-round draft pick. In addition to his 23 touchdowns, he caught 98 passes for 1,493 yards and largely avoided the type of turmoil that characterized his previous NFL stops.

During seven years with Minnesota, where he made five Pro

Bowls, he was fined \$10,000 for pretending to pull down his pants and moon the Green Bay crowd during a Vikings playoff win, and drew criticism for leaving the field with 2 seconds left in a loss to Washington.

He also bumped a traffic control officer with his car in 2002, verbally abused corporate sponsors on a team bus in 2001 and squirted an official with a water bottle in 1999.

In Oakland, he openly campaigned to be traded to a winning team. With the Patriots, he avoided controversy until the playoffs, when a woman sought

a restraining order against him, claiming that he committed "battery causing serious injury."

Moss denied the allegation and said the woman was trying to get money from him.

Also Monday, the Patriots signed free agent receiver Sam Aiken.

The 27-year-old has played five seasons with the Buffalo Bills with 19 career receptions for 250 yards and 61 career special teams tackles.

"Competing against Sam many times over the years, we know firsthand what he brings to us," Belichick said.

## Big Ben signs 8-year deal with Steelers

**PITTSBURGH (AP)—**Talk about a comeback. Ben Roethlisberger signed an eight-year extension Monday with the Pittsburgh Steelers that is worth \$102 million and makes him one of the league's top-paid players. "He's a Steeler and he'll always be a Steeler," team chairman Dan Rooney said.

The agreement comes after Roethlisberger re-established himself as one of the NFL's best quarterbacks last season, and nearly two years after his life and career were threatened by a motorcycle crash. The accident happened a few months after he led the Steelers to a Super Bowl victory.

Roethlisberger's contract guarantees him \$36 million and is easily the largest in the Steelers' 76-season history. The quarterback, who turned 26 Sunday, gets \$25 million immediately as a signing bonus.

"I told them I didn't want to go anywhere the day I walked in (as a rookie in 2004)," Roethlisberger said Monday. "I love Pittsburgh, I love the fans. Got probably the best organization

and fans in all of sport. I don't want to go anywhere."

Nor did the Steelers want to lose the club's most successful quarterback since four-time Super Bowl winner Terry Bradshaw. Roethlisberger, drafted in 2004 as part of the same QB class as the Giants' Eli Manning and the Chargers' Philip Rivers, won all 13 regular-season starts as a rookie, began his career 27-4 and already has appeared in two AFC title games and seven playoff games.

Last season, Roethlisberger threw 32 touchdown passes with only 11 interceptions in leading the Steelers to a 10-6 regular-season record and the playoffs, a major turnaround from his 23-interception season of 2006.

In four seasons, Roethlisberger has steered Pittsburgh to two AFC championship games, one Super Bowl and three playoff appearances. No Steelers quarterback, not even Bradshaw, had a better start to his career; Bradshaw didn't win a Super Bowl until his fifth season.

Roethlisberger wants to be "like

the Dan Marinos, like the John Elways, guys who played with one team their whole career."

The Steelers, quiet in free agency until signing running back-kick returner Mewelde Moore on Monday, felt some urgency to get a deal done with Roethlisberger. Director of football operations Kevin Colbert called it his top offseason priority.

Roethlisberger was due a \$2.95 million bonus this month that, if paid, would have put the Steelers over the salary cap. By reworking Roethlisberger's contract now, the team rolled that bonus into his new contract and can prorate his signing bonus over the eight years of the contract.

"Ben never said, 'I need a record-breaking contract.' He never said, 'I need the most money in the history of anything,'" said Roethlisberger's agent, Ryan Tollner. "He said, 'I need a fair deal.'"

Roethlisberger, who played in his first Pro Bowl last month, is now focused on getting "a bunch more trophies."

"I believe that the guys we

have on this team right now are exceptional players," he said. "I believe we all have the pieces of the puzzle, that we could be a championship football team, and I think that we know the history that we have of drafting well, we'll be able to bring guys in that will hopefully do more."

Roethlisberger was one of the leading vote-getters for the NFL Comeback Player of the Year award. By contrast, he never found a groove in 2006 after reporting to training camp only six weeks after his motorcycle crash in Pittsburgh, then needed an appendectomy the week of the season opener. The Steelers started 2-6 before finishing 8-8 during former coach Bill Cowher's 15th and final season.

Moore, the Steelers' only pick-up during free agency, spent his first four seasons with the Minnesota Vikings. A likely replacement for kick returner Allen Rossum, he returned two punts for touchdowns and averaged 10.4 per return while returning 74 punts from 2003-07. He averaged 19.3 yards on 26 kickoff returns.



### NFL BRIEFS

#### Agent: DE Odom, Bengals sign 5-year deal

Defensive end Antwan Odom signed a five-year deal worth \$29.5 million Monday night with the Cincinnati Bengals, their first move in free agency to fix their biggest problem. Odom was coming off a career-best season with 16 starts and eight sacks with the Tennessee Titans, who drafted him in 2004. But the Titans took a risk in letting Odom test the free agent market, and they lost him to Cincinnati, which gave the four-year veteran \$11.5 million in guaranteed money in the package. The Bengals let defensive end Justin Smith leave as a free agent and failed to pull off a trade with Detroit for defensive tackle Shaun Rogers. Their defense has been one of the NFL's worst over the last three seasons, and they made the line a priority in the offseason. (AP)

#### Falcons release veteran RB Warrick Dunn

ATLANTA (AP)—Warrick Dunn was released by the Atlanta Falcons on Monday, one day after the club signed free agent running back Michael Turner. Last season, Dunn became the 22nd back in NFL history to rush for 10,000 yards. But his days in Atlanta were numbered after the Falcons doled out a six-year contract to Turner, reportedly for \$34.5 million with about \$15 million guaranteed. The 33-year-old Dunn had three straight 1,000-yard seasons with the Falcons, helping the team lead the NFL in rushing from 2004-06. He ran for a career-high 1,416 yards in 2005, earning his third Pro Bowl appearance. But the 11-year veteran found little room to run after the Falcons fired coach Jim Mora and brought in Bobby Petrino. Dunn rushed for just 720 yards and averaged 3.2 yards per carry during a dismal 4-12 season, which was marred by Michael Vick's dogfighting case and Petrino's sudden resignation 13 games into his debut season.

#### Titans, TE Crumpler agree on 2-year deal

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—The Tennessee Titans agreed to a two-year contract with former Atlanta tight end Alge Crumpler, one of many veterans released last month by the Falcons. Crumpler, a four-time Pro Bowl selection, is expected to help an offense that had only nine touchdown passes in 2007. He will get to play with a quarterback in Vince Young whose mobility is similar to Michael Vick. "I really am excited about the opportunity to work with Vince Young. I've admired him as a peer from across the league, and I was itching to get a chance to play with him," Crumpler said. The 30-year-old Crumpler had eight touchdown receptions in 2006, and he and the Titans believe he will be a good fit for an offense that needs to improve red zone production. "He has 35 career touchdown catches, so he knows how to get open in the end zone," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said Monday while introducing Crumpler. "He knows how to get in the end zone."

### Phils coach Lopes diagnosed with cancer

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP)—Philadelphia Phillies first base coach Davey Lopes has been diagnosed with prostate cancer, and team officials said he was expected to make a full recovery.

The former Milwaukee Brewers manager will have surgery later this month at the Morton Plant Hospital in Clearwater and is expected to miss six weeks after that.

Lopes' cancer was found after he went through a routine examination with the rest of the coaching staff on Feb. 12, two days before pitchers and catchers reported to camp.

"Of course what Davey has is very serious, but the doctor feels like everything is going to be fine," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said following his team's 3-1 win over the Pirates Monday afternoon. "The medical department feels like ... everything is going to work out for him—he's just going to miss some time."

Lopes, 62, is entering his second season with the Phillies coaching staff. Jerry Martin, a minor league outfield and baserunning coach in the organization, will take over

temporarily as first base coach and outfield coordinator.

Phillies pitcher Jamie Moyer's eyes began to redden while talking about Lopes on Monday. Moyer and his wife, Karen, established a foundation in 2000 to support and offer comfort to children with cancer and kids who have lost loved ones to cancer.

"Hopefully it was caught in time," Moyer said. "While

dealing with families and kids with cancer in Seattle and throughout the country, one thing I've learned is early detection is huge, and that sounds like that's the case. ... By catching something early, hopefully it'll be a positive story."

Lopes was manager of the Brewers from 2000-2002. A former four-time all-star, he played the majority of his 16-year career with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Lopes, who led the National League in stolen bases in 1975 and 1976, helped the National League East champion Phillies break a major league record in stolen base efficiency in 2007. The Phillies swiped 138 stolen bases in 157 attempts (87 percent).



# Iguodala, 76ers beat Clippers 106-80



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Andre Iguodala scored 18 points, five of his teammates also scored in double figures, and the Philadelphia 76ers avoided a letdown after their upset win at Phoenix by routing the Los Angeles Clippers 106-80 on Monday night.

Samuel Dalembert had 12 points and 12 rebounds, helping Philadelphia win for the 10th time in 13 games. The 76ers, trying to earn their first playoff berth since 2005, are a game ahead of eighth-place New Jersey and two ahead of ninth-place Atlanta in the Eastern Conference.

Andre Miller had eight assists and six points against his former team.

Rookie Al Thornton had 20 points for the Clippers, who have dropped six straight and are one shy of their longest losing streak this season. They committed 18 turnovers, which Philadelphia converted into 27 points. Eight of the Clippers' last 11 losses have been by double-digits.

The Sixers shot 57 percent in the first half and led 54-42 at intermission. Iguodala's 3-pointer gave them a 50-38 lead with 1:52 left in the second quarter, and they maintained their double-digit margin the rest of the way - leading by as many as with 27 after opening the fourth quarter with a 10-2 spurt.

Reserve Lou Williams scored 16 points and eight assists, including a 3-point buzzer-beater that gave Philadelphia a 73-59 after three quarters.

Los Angeles forward Tim Thomas missed his second straight game because of a groin strain. Including the season-long injuries to Elton Brand and Shaun Livingston and a season-ending knee injury to reserve center Paul Davis, the Clippers are up to a league-high



Philadelphia 76ers' Samuel Dalembert (1) hooks a shot over Los Angeles Clippers' Chris Kaman (35) in the first half of their NBA basketball game, Monday, March 3, 2008 in Los Angeles. AP

206 man-games lost to injury or illness. Coach Mike Dunleavy used his 25th different starting lineup against the 76ers.

## Hornets 100, Knicks 88

At New York, Chris Paul scored 27 points and had a hand in three clutch baskets in the final minutes, leading the New Orleans Hornets over the New York Knicks 100-88 in the NBA on Monday.

Tyson Chandler added 15 points and 18 rebounds for the Hornets, who made sure the Knicks will suffer their seventh straight losing season. They did it by controlling the final minutes behind Paul, who finished with eight assists, five rebounds and three steals.

Jamal Crawford scored 20 points and Eddy Curry ended a month-long slump with 19 for the Knicks.

## Jazz 116, Mavericks 110

At Salt Lake City, Deron Williams had 20 assists and 17 points, and Utah rallied for a 16-0 run late in the fourth quarter to down Dallas.

The Jazz took a 21-point lead shortly after forward Andrei Kirilenko was knocked out of the game with a hip injury on a flagrant foul by Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki in the first quarter. But they allowed the Mavericks to creep back and take a late lead before Utah's rally at the end.

Utah made all 18 free throws in the fourth quarter and improved to 26-3 at home, the best home record in the league.

Mehmet Okur had 20 points and 12 rebounds and Carlos Boozer scored 28 points and three steals, stripping the ball two times in a row from Nowitzki as Utah pulled away in the final minutes.

Josh Howard scored 25 points and Nowitzki finished with 23 for Dallas, which fell to 4-4 since acquiring Jason Kidd.

# NBA sets guidelines on Heat-Hawks replay

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Shaquille O'Neal is no longer around, but Mike Bibby and Shawn Marion will be able to suit up for the NBA's first replay since 1982.

The league set guidelines for Saturday's do-over between the Atlanta Hawks and Miami Heat, who must complete the final 51.9 seconds of their Dec. 19 overtime game.

The Hawks left the court that night with a 117-111 victory, but commissioner David Stern struck it from the books after the home team's stat crew mistakenly ruled that O'Neal, then playing for Miami, had fouled out with less than a minute to go in overtime.

O'Neal has since been traded to Phoenix, but the NBA said Monday that both teams can fill out any openings on their 12-man active roster with players acquired since the disputed game.

That means the Heat can dress Marion and Marcus Banks, who came from the Suns in the Shaq deal. Likewise, the Hawks will be able to use Bibby, who was picked up from Sacramento just ahead of the trade deadline.

Miami has 10 players who were active Dec. 19 still on its roster, leaving two openings for the makeup minute. The Heat's other options are Jason Williams, Smush Parker and Joel Anthony.

The Hawks, who gave up four players for Bibby, have nine active players still around from the disputed game. Also eligible to be added for the replay are Josh Childress, Jeremy Richardson and Speedy Claxton.

Miami will have the ball when the game resumes, trailing 114-111. After the replay is completed, the teams will get a 15-minute break, then return to the court for their regularly scheduled contest at Philips Arena.

The night is vitally important to the Hawks, who are battling for a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference and can hardly afford to squander an apparent

win against hapless Miami, which has the NBA's worst record (11-46).

Stern also fined the Hawks \$50,000, ruling they were "grossly negligent" in failing to address the mistake.

Miami's protest was the first granted by the NBA since December 1982, when then-NBA commissioner Larry O'Brien upheld a request for a replay by the San Antonio Spurs after their 137-132 double-overtime loss to the Los Angeles Lakers the previous month.

The Spurs and Lakers finally finished the game in April 1983, with San Antonio winning 117-114.

# Kansas hands Texas Tech another drubbing, 109-51



**LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP)**—Russell Robinson's 15 points led No. 5 Kansas in a 109-51 thrashing of Texas Tech on Monday night, the second time in three games the Red Raiders suffered the most lopsided loss in school history.

Texas Tech (16-13, 7-8 Big 12)—and rookie coach Pat Knight—lost 98-54 at Texas A&M last week, then the biggest loss in school history. In between the record losses, the Red Raiders upset then-No. 5 Texas 83-80, one of the program's biggest wins in several seasons.

For Kansas (27-3, 12-3), it was the biggest win in a conference game in that program's storied history.

All but one of the 16 players in uniform for Kansas scored as coach Bill Self, obviously displeased at humiliating Knight and his team, hustled every available player onto the court in the final 6 minutes.

The victory gave Kansas a 20-0 record at home, the 14th time the Jayhawks have been unbeaten in tradition-soaked 53-year-old Allen Fieldhouse.

The rout began taking on historic proportions with about 10 minutes left when Jeremy Case, a little-used senior making his final appearance on Senior Night, hit a 3-pointer that made it 80-36.

As Self sat on the bench looking gloomy, Case drilled two more 3-pointers and Cole Aldrich rebounded a miss and

hit a hook shot, making it 88-38 with 8:11 left and bringing a thunderous, sustained roar from the sellout crowd.

Knight, who took over when his father, Bob, unexpectedly stepped down on Feb. 4, sat back in his chair, arms folded dejectedly, as Rodrick Stewart canned another 3 for a 91-38 lead.

Six Jayhawks scored in double figures.

Martin Zeno had 19 points for Texas Tech and John Roberson added 15.

The Jayhawks, who pride themselves on being one of the most balanced teams in the country, had 51 points in the first half without anyone reaching double figures.

They got off to a ragged start, with

Brandon Rush throwing up two straight air balls on 3-point attempts, but finally found their rhythm and went on a 10-0 run, capped by Aldrich's basket that made it 30-26.

After Roberson hit two uncontested 3-pointers over an uncharacteristic Kansas zone, the Jayhawks called time out and then unleashed a 17-2 run and went into halftime with a 51-26 lead.

Sherron Collins had 13 points in the historic win for Kansas, while Mario Chalmers and Aldrich both had 11 and Jackson and Sasha Kaun had 10 each.

The five seniors—Case, Jackson, Kaun, Robinson and Stewart—are 108-23 and going for their fourth straight Big 12 championship.

## NBA BRIEFS

### Yao undergoes successful foot surgery

**HOUSTON (AP)**—Yao Ming underwent surgery to repair a stress fracture in his left foot on Monday. Houston Rockets team doctor Tom Clanton and Dr. Bill McGarvey performed the surgery on the All-Star center Monday morning. "Yao is comfortable and recovering well after surgery," Clanton said in a news release. "We will continue to monitor his recovery and begin an aggressive rehabilitation once he is physically deemed ready." Clanton has said the surgery would involve placing screws across the bone to hold it together with a recovery time of about four months. Doctors do not expect the injury to keep Yao from playing for China in the Olympics in Beijing in August. "I am very relieved that everything went well with my surgery today," Yao said in the release. "I am looking forward to getting better and starting my physical rehab as soon as the doctors say I can." The Rockets have won 15 consecutive games, including three in a row since Yao's season-ending injury. "I would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes during this time and I look forward to the day that I can rejoin my Rockets teammates on the bench," Yao said.

### Oklahoma City to vote on NBA proposal

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)**—Oklahoma City voters will decide Tuesday on a \$121 million plan aimed at luring an NBA team. Oklahoma City mayor Mick Cornett's proposal would spend \$97 million to upgrade the Ford Center and another \$24.6 million to build an NBA practice facility in hopes of completing the city's courtship of the Seattle SuperSonics. While Cornett has been promoting the improvements to the Ford Center as mandatory to show Oklahoma City's long-term commitment to the NBA, David Glover has been spearheading opposition to the plan that would extend a one-cent sales tax increase for another 15 months. Cornett considers the improvements to the Ford Center necessary even if the SuperSonics, owned by Oklahoma City businessman Clay Bennett, don't end up relocating. Without them, Cornett says Oklahoma City will fall behind competitors for concerts, the Big 12 tournament and other events. Bennett declined interview requests from The Associated Press and through a spokesman refused to say what would happen if the vote fails. The SuperSonics are in the middle of a court battle to break their lease in Seattle, and the NBA Board of Governors will vote in April on Bennett's request to relocate to Oklahoma City. While reserving comment on the specific proposal in Oklahoma City, NBA spokesman Tim Frank said "the NBA will always support teams' and cities' efforts to enhance the experience for our fans." The cost of adding restaurants, clubs, suites and other amenities to the Ford Center—which hosted the New Orleans Hornets for two years following Hurricane Katrina—falls about in the middle of the cost fronted by new NBA cities when the past two franchises relocated.



# CNMI Softball Association expected to start March 18

The CNMI Softball Association would like to inform all interested individuals that the 2008 Island Wide Fast Pitch League for both men and women is tentatively scheduled to start on or about March 18.

In preparation for the league, this is to advise all coaches, managers, and interested individuals that there will be an organizational meeting for the league on Tuesday, March 11,

6pm at the Oleai Sports Complex pavilion.

Interested coaches, managers, and individuals are urged to attend this important meeting and should bring to the meeting their team rosters and waiver forms.

Entrance fee for the leagues have been set at \$800 per team, which will be due at a later date. For more information, contact president Manny Tenorio at 285-8366. (PR)

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	46	12	.793	—
Toronto	32	26	.552	14
Philadelphia	28	33	.459	19 1/2
New Jersey	26	33	.441	20 1/2
New York	18	42	.300	29

##### Southeast Division

Orlando	38	23	.623	—
Washington	29	30	.492	8
Atlanta	24	33	.421	12
Charlotte	20	39	.339	17
Miami	11	46	.193	25

##### Central Division

Detroit	43	16	.729	—
Cleveland	34	26	.567	9 1/2
Indiana	24	36	.400	19 1/2
Chicago	23	36	.390	20
Milwaukee	22	38	.367	21 1/2

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

San Antonio	41	17	.707	—
New Orleans	40	19	.678	1 1/2
Houston	39	20	.661	2 1/2
Dallas	39	22	.639	3 1/2
Memphis	14	45	.237	27 1/2

##### Northwest Division

Utah	39	22	.639	—
Denver	35	24	.593	3
Portland	31	29	.517	7 1/2
Seattle	16	43	.271	22
Minnesota	12	46	.207	25 1/2

##### Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	42	18	.700	—
Phoenix	39	20	.661	2 1/2
Golden State	36	22	.621	5
Sacramento	27	32	.458	14 1/2
L.A. Clippers	19	39	.328	22

#### Yesterday's Games

New Orleans 100, New York 88  
Utah 116, Dallas 110  
Philadelphia 106, L.A. Clippers 80

### NBA LEADERS

#### Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
James, Clev.	53	570	383	1598	30.2
Bryant, LAL	59	555	431	1641	27.8
Iverson, Den.	58	508	480	1559	26.9
Anthony, Den.	53	503	333	1378	26.0
Wade, Mia.	47	406	320	1152	24.5
Stoudemire, Phoe.	56	490	356	1341	23.9
Redd, Mil.	49	379	302	1151	23.5
Nowitzki, Dall.	59	476	382	1384	23.5
Jefferson, N.J.	58	440	421	1354	23.3
Bosh, Tor.	52	397	375	1173	22.6
Maggette, LAC	48	319	375	1059	22.1
Yao, Hou.	55	432	345	1209	22.0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### LOCAL SCORES

#### SML Standings

Tanapag Falcons	1	0
D9ers	1	0
Korean Dreams	1	0
Rock Steady	1	0
Tigers	0	1
Ford Rangers	0	1
Kabur	0	1
Komoro	0	1

#### SML Box Scores

Kabur	5	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	11
D9ers	2	7	2	1	3	2	1	2	0	20

	R	H	E
Kabur	11	9	5
D9ers	20	15	4

## HONOR

From Page 28

First up for Omar was in the Grand Prix at Barlow Park in Cairns, Australia where he registered a new record in the 100m sprint with a time of 11.09 seconds to shatter his year-old mark of 11.12 seconds that he established in the World Youth Championships in Beijing, China in August 2006.

Not content with his time, Omar broke his own record of 11.12 seconds a week later when he registered 11.09 seconds in the 11th IAAF World Championships held at Nagai Stadium in Osaka City, Osaka, Japan.

Omar ran alongside world champion and Olympic gold-medal winning sprinter Tyson Gay in the first of the qualifying heats of the World Championships in Osaka.

Not satisfied with his new record, Omar shaved off .09/10th of a second in his time when he ran at 11 seconds flat during the qualifying heats in the XIII Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

He moved on into the semi-finals, which was a historic feat since he became the first CNMI athlete to qualify to the next round. During the semis, Omar failed to enter the finals but made history once again when he broke the 11-second barrier when he recorded a 10.99 finish.

Omar finished ninth overall and was .01/10th of a second behind Papua New Guinea's Henry Ben, 10.98, who was the last finals qualifier.

Omar also nearly qualified in the men's 200m run finals in the Pacific Games but settled for breaking another CNMI record when he registered a new time of 22.40 seconds to shatter

the 23.03 seconds he set in the Grand Prix Series.

Omar ran on lane 6 in the third heat where he finished ninth overall. He was .08/10th of a second behind last qualifier Moses Kamut of Vanuatu.

He was way ahead of the Federated States of Micronesia's Jack Howard, who came in 13th overall with a time of 22.75 seconds.

## Top Mermaid

The 16-year-old Johnson produced a solid string of lifetime best swims in the 12th FINA World Swimming Championships in Melbourne, Australia last year.

Saipan International School's top mermaid shaved more than two seconds off from her all-time best in the 100m Freestyle with an impressive time of 1:06.56. Her previous best time was 1:08.76.

She then improved her 43.15-second time in the 50m breaststroke when she logged in 37.86.

"Its my first time to win the award and I am really surprised," said the soft-spoken Johnson, whose next goal is to break the 200m freestyle record this year.

She also posted lifetime best swims in four other events to go 6-for-6 at the pool at Rod Laver Arena including a six-second drop in the 200m freestyle event, which was two seconds better of the CNMI National Record.

Johnson returned to Saipan and won the 13-14 age group during the 29th Annual SSC Ocean Swim in 2007, becoming the first female that came out of the water as well as the top swimmer for all age groups after completing the 2,500m swim in 40:29.

Johnson was a two-time Female Athlete of the Year winner while also being nominated in

the Female Student Athlete of the Year category

## Tennis Wunderkind

Heo, arguably the best junior netter on Saipan, led Team CNMI's stint in the North Pacific Qualifying event on home soil where the hosts earned seven of the eight slots at stake for the north squad.

He played both in the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships and the Oceania Closed Junior Championships in August last year at the ITF regional training facility in Lautoka, Fiji.

He faced the best 18-and-under players from 17 other members of the Pacific Oceania region. Heo was undefeated in pool play and entered the quarterfinals with a win over No. 2 seed Daneric Hazelman of Fiji. Heo defeated the Cook Islands Lorenzo Pineda in the semis to arrange a finals match against Hazelman, which he eventually lost. He again lost to Hazelman in the Oceania Closed.

He then returned to Saipan to rule his age group in the Fall Classic Junior Tennis Tournament winning the singles title in the boys' 18-and-under division in a historic.

Proving he is the top male netter in the CNMI, the 15-year-old netter did not drop a single game in the entire tournament as he blanked all his opponents en route to winning the crown.

His impressive showing earned him an invitation to join the ITF Pacific-Oceania Junior touring team in Australia in January where he joined a group of Under-18 players that played in several tournaments in Melbourne.

## Multi-event Queen

Wonenberg earned the recognition after becoming the first athlete from Micronesia selected to compete as part of the Oceania delega-

tion in the Australian Youth Olympic Festival in Sydney, Australia.

Wonenberg, who is studying at Marianas High School, was a member of the Oceania women's 4X400m relay team, which placed eighth in the competition with a time of 4:16:62.

She ran the third leg of the relay, with Australia's Jane Merry running first, Salote Niulevu of Fiji running second, and Eka Faitala anchoring the team.

Wonenberg's selection to the team was made by the Oceania Olympic Committee.

She also set new records in women's long jump and 400m run in the 3rd McDonald's All-Schools Track and Field Championship last year.

Wonenberg, who turned 15 last month, set a new CNMI National record in the long jump with a distance of 4.97m.

She then set a new meet record in the 400m run with a time of 62.50 seconds. The two-time NMASA Female Student Athlete of the Year awardee, Wonenberg also helped the Marianas High School Lady Dolphins win the title in the girls' 18-and-under division,

July's Friday the 13th proved the exact opposite for Wonenberg as she set a new personal best and at the same time shattered the national record in the 200m run in the 5th World Youth Championships in Ostrava, Czech Republic.

The 15-year-old Wonenberg competed in the fourth heat of the 200m run last July 13 and finished seventh with an official time of 27.74 seconds. She had a .173 reaction time off the blocks.

Her official time broke the 27.89 seconds set by teammate Yvonne Bennett during the High School All Island Track & Field Meet in Guam last May.

## PRO-GOLFER

From Page 28

fired a 10-under-par 206 and lost by two shots against compatriot Azuma Yano, who finished with a 12-under-par 204.

Murota fired a 68, 69, and 69 in the three rounds he played at the Pearl Country Club course. He also saw action in the Turtle Bay Championship held at the Arnold Palmer-designed course

in Kahuku, Hawaii.

He finished tied at 39th place with Americans Bruce Vaughan, Mitch Adcock, Ron Streck, and Tom Purtzer. Murota finished with a 6-under-par 222.

Murota started playing golf when he was 20 years old in the late 70s and he turned pro in 1982. The 26-year pro golfer also had the chance to play against top golfers Tom Watson and Fred Couples while in the U.S. regular and senior PGA Tours.



# Pro-golfer enjoys Saipan sortie

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



Professional Japanese golfer Kiyoshi Murota is on island for a much needed vacation with friends and to continue his training and practice rounds at Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

Murota, who arrived last Sunday along with five of his friends, will be staying up to Thursday and return to Japan and continue his preparations for the upcoming Japan Token Homemade Golf Tournament in April.

He is enjoying his daily practice rounds at COP, continuously testing the 7,015-yard, par-72, Larry Nelson-designed golf course.

Murota, who is fresh from a second place finish to countryman Azuma



Kiyoshi Murota, center, enjoys a light moment with his friends and Coral Ocean Point president Akio Hara, fifth left, yesterday at COP's café.

Yano in the 30th Hawaii Pearl Open last February at the Pearl Country Club in Oahu, has nothing but praises for the COP golf facility.

"[COP] has a fantastic outline and for the last two days since we arrived the weather conditions are good for practice," said Murota, through interpreter Takahiro Omori, in yesterday's interview after playing another round at COP.

"COP has very long outlines and is by far the longest I have seen here on Saipan," added Murota, who fired a 1-under-par 71 in yesterday's round at COP.

He said that he would recommend to other Japanese professional golfers to visit and test the COP golf course. "I will recommend for some other pro golfers and to my friends to come and practice here on Saipan since it is still cold in Japan. They can play here and enjoy the yearlong sunny weather."

Murota said his favorite spot at the COP golf course is hole No. 14, which is COP's signature par-3 hole that faces Agingan point.

At the Pearl Open in Hawaii, Murota

See PRO-GOLFER ON PAGE 26

# Seven-run second inning propel D9ers past Kabur

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



The D9ers used a seven-run second inning to cruise to a 20-11 win over Team Kabur in Monday night's game in the 3rd Annual Budweiser Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Derek Babauta started for the D9ers, which is being supported by Chel's Lawn Care, and pitched for four innings before being replaced by Leeroy Dela Cruz at the top of the fifth. He moved to right field when Dela Cruz came in to pitch.

Babauta allowed Kabur to seven earned runs on six hits with four strikeouts and five walks, while Dela Cruz pitched three innings in relief giving up three runs—all unearned—on one hit with two strikeouts and two walks.

Greg Camacho closed out for the D9ers, pitching for two innings, and held Kabur to one earned run on three hits while striking out two batters and walking two more.

Catcher John Tenorio went 3-for-5 with one double and six RBIs including a couple of two-RBI singles in the first and sixth innings that sandwiched his sacrifice fly in the fifth.

Ton Camacho went 3-for-4 with four runs, two doubles, two RBIs, and four stolen bases while lead off batter Bob Lizama had four singles going 4-for-6 with three runs scored.

The Bridge Capital-backed Kabur opened with a 6-2 lead after 1 1/2 in-



Ton Camacho of the D9ers waits for the pitch in their game against Kabur in the 3rd Annual Budweiser-Saipan Major League on Monday at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

nings but could not contain the heavy-hitting D9ers, which broke loose in the bottom of the second.

Kabur pitcher Teo Minor, who only lasted for 1.3 innings, gave up consecutive walks to George Castro and Derek Babauta at the start of the second inning then Lizama singled to load up the bases and Jeff Tenorio had an RBI walk for the Men-In-Blue for a 3-6 count.

Kabur manager Dennis Renguul saw enough and decided to replace Minor with Darwin Masaharu, who allowed consecutive two-RBI doubles to Ton Camacho and Greg Camacho.

John Tenorio struck out to end the bleeding, while Chris Camacho stepped safely on first base on a Hector Efraim

throwing error. Chris Camacho later scored on a throwing error by Poland Masaharu. Dela Cruz was safe on first on that Masaharu error.

Darwin Masaharu then got the next two outs when he forced George Castro to ground out while striking out Babauta. He was still shaky in the next three innings before he was replaced by Dave Kapileo in the bottom of the sixth.

Poland Masaharu and Landon Martin, who also had two RBIs, combined for 4-for-6 in batting, while Payton Sakuma

went 2-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs.

Dave Kapileo, who started as Kabur's designated hitter, went 2-for-4 with a double, one run, and two RBIs.

The Atty. Bob O'Connor Tigers will try to bounce back from their opening day loss to defending champion Tana-pag Falcons when they take on the Korean Dreams at 6:30pm today.

## SML thankful for MARPAC's help

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saipan Major League coordinator Tony Rogolifoi is thankful for all the help extended to them by MARPAC year in and year out.

MARPAC, who is the sole distributor of Budweiser and other Anheuser-Busch products in the CNMI, donated \$5,000 to the SML last week in support of the annual baseball league.

"We are very fortunate for all of

sit down with SML officers to plan how to improve their sponsorship and services to the SML in the coming seasons.

"We are always thankful for the people's support. MARPAC has been at the forefront of helping various sectors in our community. This is our way of giving back to all our supporters," said Camacho.

Rogolifoi said every year MARPAC wants to improve their sponsorship from last year. MARPAC



JON PEREZ

MARPAC marketing manager Jojo Camacho, center, hands over the \$5,000 check to Saipan Major League coordinator Tony Rogolifoi in last week's presentation before the Rock Steady-Ford Rangers match in the 3rd Annual Budweiser-SML at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

MARPAC's support. For the last three years they have been helping us with our expenses," said Rogolifoi, who added SML entered into a five-year sponsorship deal with MARPAC.

It is the third year that MARPAC is sponsoring the SML. MARPAC and SML agreed to a five-year sponsorship deal where it started on 2005 and ends on 2010.

MARPAC marketing manager Jojo Camacho said the contract is renewable after 2010 and they would again

has been doing that by continuously meeting with SML officials to know what other areas they can cover as far as supporting the league.

MARPAC's sponsorship covers the purchase of new baseballs, the payment of the umpires, and the trophies given away during the award ceremony.

"Every year we always look for a bigger and better baseball season. So to all teams, play hard and practice sportsmanship."

# Wabol wins March qualifier for RGA

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR



National golfer Jess Wabol won the qualifier for the Refaluwash Association March Ace of the Month Tournament last Saturday, March 1, at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

The RGA president "emeritus" and current tournament director shot a net score of 67 after a 36 in the front nine and a superb 31 in the back nine for a gross score of 67. Wabol had a handicap of zero.

Two shots off the pace were the duo of Tony Rogolifoi and Louis Tilipao with the latter edging out the former in a scorecard tiebreak based on the front nine net, 32-35.5. The two wound up with identical 69s.

Jordan Kossam (net 71), Palik Thompson (72), Joe Demapan (74), Joe Saures (74), Ed "Doi" Tenorio (78), Asterio Tawanpiy (79), John Mettao (80), Andy Nepaial (82), Joe Wabol (82), and junior golfer Jay Choi (83) also took part in the event.

In the closest to the pin competition, Choi was without peer in hole No. 3, while Thompson won hole No. 14.

RGA also welcomed Choi and Thompson as new members in the March qualifier. The club is also encouraging members to take part in this year's Mt. Carmel Golf Tournament set for March 15.

The March Ace of the Month Tournament would be held on March 16, Sunday, at the COP. Check in time is 11:30am with tee of an hour later at 12:30pm.

For more information about RGA's March Ace of the Month Tournament contact RGA president Adam Hardwicke at 483-2926 or Wabol at 233-3673.





## Pro-golfer enjoys Saipan sortie

Professional Japanese golfer Kiyoshi Murota is on island for a much needed vacation with friends and to continue his training and practice rounds at Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Pats re-sign Randy Moss to 3-year deal

Randy Moss is staying with the New England Patriots. The defending AFC champions re-signed the record-breaking receiver on Monday to a three-year deal worth \$27 million, his agent said.



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Honor a surprise for four athletes

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

All four winners of the 2007 Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association Athletes of the Year were all surprised that they were chosen considering how stiff the competition was among the CNMI's top sports heroes.

Record-breaking sprinter Tyrone Omar won the Male Athlete of the Year, while top mermaid Sarah Johnson earned the same title in the female division. Tennis wunderkind Ji Hoon Heo and multi-event princess Jacque Wonenberg were named the Male and Female Student Athletes of the Year.

NMASA honored all four athletes along with their compatriots, who earned

Athletes of the Month honors, in NMASA's yearly sports banquet held last night at the poolside of Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Except for Johnson, all three were repeat winners with Wonenberg earning the title for the third straight year, while Omar and Heo are back-to-back awardees.

## Sprint King

Omar immediately became the CNMI's sprint king, breaking the CNMI 100m run record not only once but three times when he competed in three off-island tournaments last year.

He was on the road for one month competing in the Oceania Grand Prix Series, 11th IAAF World Championships, and the XIII Pacific Games. He also broke the 200m run record, which he also previously held.

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JON PEREZ

From left, Female and Male Student Athletes of the Year winners Jacque Wonenberg and Ji Hoon Heo and Female and Male Athletes of the Year winners Sarah Johnson and Tyrone Omar pose with their trophies in last night's Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association Athlete of the Year banquet at the poolside of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

## Race wins third Coach of the Year plum

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Former Pacific Oceania Davis Cup captain and CNMI national tennis coach Jeff Race won his third NMASA Coach of the Year award last night during the NMASA Athlete of the Year banquet at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

The affable vice president of the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association now has the 2007 top mentor trophy to join the Coach of the Year awards he won in 2001 and 2003.

Like the two previous times he took home the award, Race won in 2007 because of his work in the development of the CNMI's junior tennis program.

Last year saw the CNMI take seven of the eight slots for the 2007 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Lautoka, Fiji.

It was also in Race's nurturing hands that top junior netters Ji Hoon Heo and Thea Minor were able to secure trips to New Zealand and Australia to take on the top players not only in Micronesia but the entire Pacific Oceania as well.

But what made last year stand out than the two previous times he won the award was Race's

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JON PEREZ

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Federation vice president Jeff Race poses for photographers after being named the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association's 2007 Coach of the Year in a simple ceremony held at the poolside of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan last night.

## Tony Benavente inducted into Sports Hall of Fame

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The CNMI's all-time winningest pitcher Tony Benavente was enshrined into the Sports Hall of Fame last night during the annual NMASA Athlete of the Year banquet at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

In the ceremony celebrating the biggest feats in sports in 2007, the Division of Parks and Recreation director was honored for his exploits on top of the baseball mound.

According to the sports association that nominated Benavente, the Saipan Major League, no pitcher outside Benavente has won more games since the league's inception in 1982.

In an 18-year big league career, Benavente won a total of 61 games while losing only 17. He is also the SML's lifetime career leader in strikeouts with 816.

Benavente won his first most valuable player ward in 1982 after leading the Hafa Adai Express to the league's first championship. He was the MVP again in 1986 and championship MVP in 1993 and 1994. In 1995, he was the MVP of the Mobil Games for pitching the CNMI to its first-ever regional baseball championship.

Aside from the MVP awards, Benavente also led the SML in



JON PEREZ

Former baseball pitcher Tony Benavente poses with his trophy after being inducted to the NMASA Sports Hall of Fame in a simple award ceremony held last night at the poolside of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

earned run average seven times—1982, 1986, 1989 and 1993-1996. He finished his career with an outstanding ERA of 2.14.

Benavente also led the league

in strikeouts in 1982, 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1993—a grand total of five times—and in one game in 1989, he set a record

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